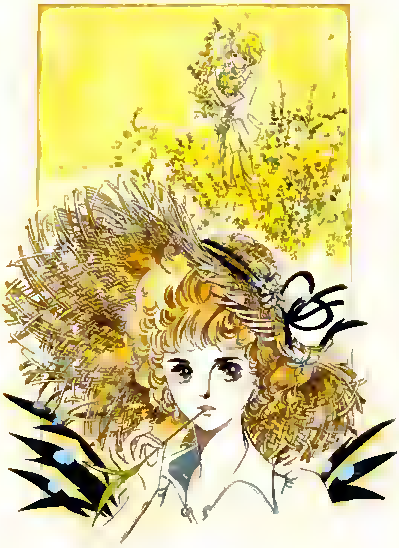

Thoma no Shinzou

The Heart of Thomas by Hagio Moto
Parts 1, 2 (revised) & 3

These scans are from the 1995 single bunko edition.

German spelling has been used for the names of characters and places where possible in order to maintain consistency with the manga

Please note that this manga was first published over three tankoubon volumes, and the scanlated pages in this zip comprise the complete Volume 1 tankoubon

At the very end are some color pages that come from the 2007 Shogakukan reprint of *Thoma no Shinzou*. For more information, please visit the sites below:
http://www.cafebleu.net/hagio/complete/selecting/index.html
http://www.shogakukan.co.jp/hagiomoto/

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萩尾望都
Hagio, moto

トーマの心臓

萩尾望都

ISBN4-09-191013-0

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HEART OF THOMAS

[illegible] a boy dies one morning His name is Thomas Werner He leaves behind a single letter addressed to his fellow student Juli "Here is my love Here is the sound of my heart"

With his faith shaken to the core by the words, the scholarly Juli sinks to the depths of despair His roommate Oscar watches on, his conflicted feelings for Juli and his own father kept tightly in check While these events unfold, new student Eric enters the school – a boy who closely resembles the deceased Thomas

Enter the world of a boy's boarding school in Germany where all will be revealed about the suffering and redemption that comes with love

Even today, this early work of Hagio Moto is still regarded as a brilliant masterpiece.

9784091910134

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トーマの心臓

萩尾望都

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THAT MORNING, THOMAS WERNER MAILED A LETTER AT THE POST OFFICE
"FOR ABOUT SIX MONTHS I'VE BEEN MUSING OVER
.MY LIFE AND DEATH
.AND HOW IT WILL AFFECT A FRIEND OF MINE"
SPRING WAS JUST AROUND THE CORNER
THE MELTING SNOW SQUELCHED BENEATH HIS FOOTSTEPS

creak
JUMP
too!

JULI...JULIUSMOLE!

FOR ABOUT SIX MONTHS, I'VE BEEN MUSING OVER
MY LIFE AND DEATH.. AND HOW IT WILL AFFECT A FRIEND
OF MINE

I AM AWARE THAT I AM ONLY AN ADOLESCENT, AND I KNOW
THAT MY YOUTHFUL LOVE WILL BE CAST ASIDE BY HIM IN THE
FACE OF THE OBVIOUS – ITS ASEXUAL, INEXPLICABLE NATURE

SO THIS IS NOT A TRIVIAL BET I AM MAKING,
AND THE FACT THAT I LOVE HIM IS NOT THE ISSUE

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS,
HE MUST LOVE ME IN RETURN

AT THE MOMENT, HE IS EFFECTIVELY DEAD TO THE WORLD,
SO I THINK NOTHING OF MUTILATING MY OWN BODY
IN ORDER TO BRING HIM BACK TO LIFE

IT IS SAID THAT WE ALL DIE TWICE
FIRSTLY, THE PHYSICAL DEATH;
LATER, THE DEATH OF BEING FORGOTTEN BY OUR FRIENDS

IN THAT CASE,
I WILL NEVER DIE THAT SECOND DEATH
FOR EVEN WHEN HE DIES, HE WILL NEVER FORGET ME

IN THIS WAY,
I WILL ALWAYS LIVE ON
IN HIS EYES.

THOMA NO SHINZOU
THE HEART OF THOMAS
トーマの心臓

IT'S JULI!
clang
squelch
squelch
JULI!
JULI!
JULI!
GOOD MORN-ING!
DON'T CRY!
THERE, THERE. DON'T CRY, ANTE.
IT'S TERRIBLE! DID YOU HEAR THE NEWS? THOMAS IS DEAD!
THERE'S NOTHING GOOD ABOUT IT!
DEAD?
WOOSH
THOMAS WERNER, THE STUDENT IN THE YEAR BELOW US! OUR CUTE YOUNG FRAULEIN!

THE WALKWAY BRIDGE! HE FELL FROM THE WALKWAY BRIDGE!
BUT HOW...?
IT WAS THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY! ON SATURDAY...
THEY SAY A TEACHER FOUND HIM WHILE WALKING IN THE SNOW!
MORN-ING!
THEY THINK IT HAPPENED AROUND THE START OF THE EASTER HOLIDAYS.
WELL, IT WAS A HUGE SHOCK TO ALL OF US!
THOMAS WERNER REALLY DID LIKE YOU, JULI.
UH-HUH. THE REST OF US ARE BACK AT SCHOOL.
SO IS EVERYONE ELSE ALL RIGHT?
BUT...
.....
I THOUGHT YOU ALL KNEW THAT I PUT AN END TO THAT PRANK OF HIS!

LEAVE IT, ANTE
BUT THOMAS!
BRINGING THAT UP WITH JULI WILL ONLY CAUSE TROUBLE
YES, IT IS.
IS MASS ON AT THE USUAL TIME?
SO IT'LL BE A MEMORIAL SERVICE I'LL SEE YOU THERE LATER
BUT ...
A PRANK? B-BUT...
WHY IS ANTE BAWLING SO MUCH? HE'S A LOT MORE UPSET THAN THE REST OF US
PROBABLY BECAUSE LEIBAR'S TAKING HIM OUT
NO NEED TO ACT CHEERFUL. WHEN DID YOU HEAR THE NEWS?
Slam!
ABOUT THOMAS? EVERYONE'S IN AN UPROAR OVER IT
JULI!
HEY, OSCAR!
HMM. ON MY DESK
...IS A LITTLE SOMETHING THAT ARRIVED FOR YOU

POOR LITTLE THOMAS WERNER!
GONE BEFORE HIS TIME!
clack
SEE THE POST-MARK ON IT?
SHUT THE WINDOW.
IT'S COLD!
A LETTER FOR ME?
IT CAME YESTER-DAY
I WAS HERE AT SCHOOL
HMPH.
NO...
DO YOU KNOW THE TOWN WHERE THOMAS LIVED?
IT WAS MAILED ON SATURDAY MORNING - THE DAY YOUR DEAR SUITOR MET HIS TRAGIC FATE

SURELY HE MUST'VE WANTED YOU TO WRITE A REPLY TO HIM
AHH, THE PERKS OF BEING DEAD!
YOUR SUITOR WASN'T THINKING STRAIGHT WHEN HE CHOSE TO ENTER THE PEARLY GATES THE OTHER DAY, WAS HE?
AFTER ALL THESE ARE THOMAS'S FINAL THOUGHTS IN HIS FINAL WORDS.
HE'S NO LONGER HERE
SO I HAVE A DUTY TO READ IT
YOU'RE NOT TEARING IT UP AS USUAL?
SO YOU'LL READ IT?
HE'S NOT HERE ANYMORE
THOMAS WERNER THE STUDENT IN THE YEAR BELOW US! OUR CUTE YOUNG FRAULEIN!
THOMAS WERNER'S LAST WORDS
FINALLY TO JULUSMOLE
Here is my love
Here is the sound of my heart
Surely you will understand.

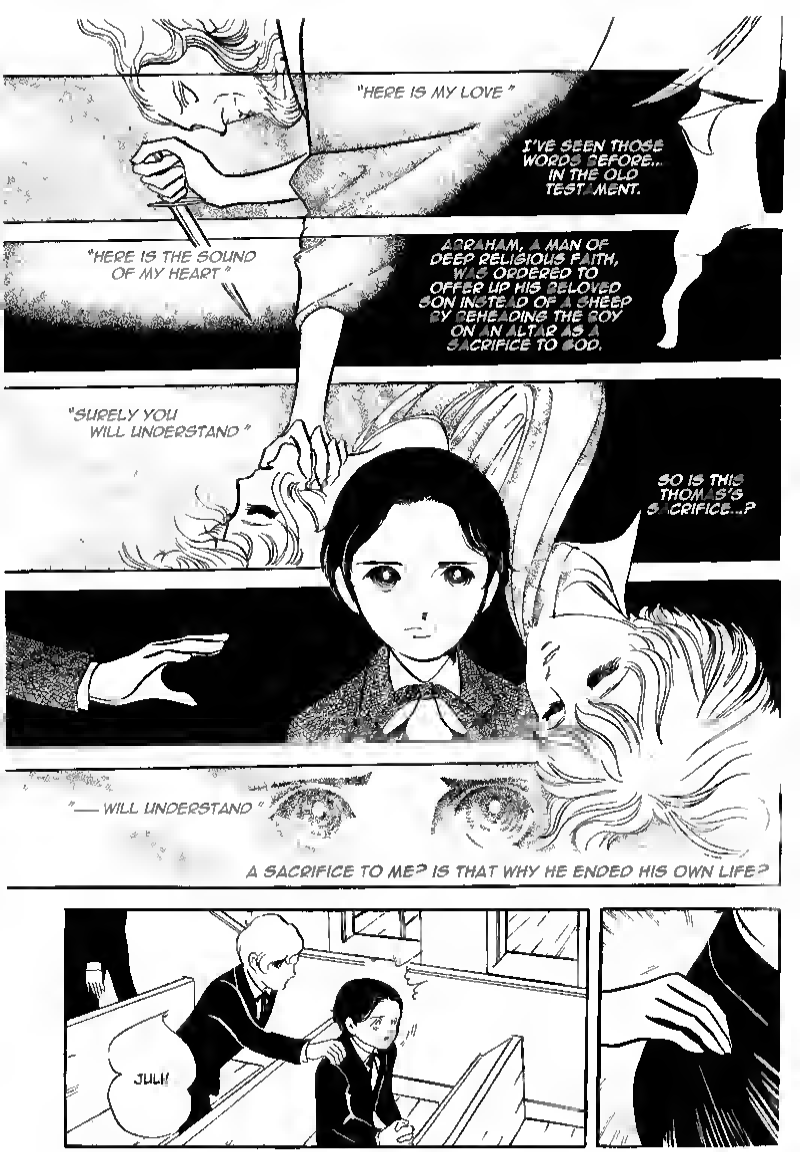
IS THAT WHAT HE WROTE IN HIS LOVE LETTER?
HUH? WHAT'S WITH THAT TONE OF VOICE, JULI?
DO YOU THINK THAT'S HOW THOMAS WERNER DIED?
RIGHT I SEE
WHAT'S WRONG, JULI?
.....
HOW DO YOU THINK HE DIED?!
IN AN ACCI-DENT!
grab
HIS WILL!
...TO YOU!
SO HE'S ADDRESSED HIS WILL....

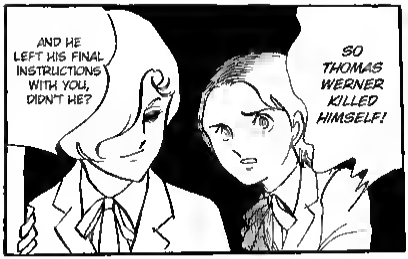
RIGHT WE'RE COMING!
TIME FOR MASS!
knock knock
WHAT IS HE TRYING TO PULL?
JULI!
stomp stomp
HE'S ADDRESSED HIS WILL TO YOU!
HEY, GOOD MORNING!
Wah!
GOOD MORNING!
GOOD MORNING!

AND HE WAS SUCH A NICE AND FRIENDLY PERSON.
IT'S SUCH A SHAME, HUH?
REALLY!
I HEARD ABOUT THOMAS'S ACCIDENT!
UH-HUH! NOW EVEN ALL THE OLDER STUDENTS KNOW ABOUT IT!
LEAPITY LEAP!
OUR SWEET FRAULEIN DESERVED BETTER, DIDN'T HE?
I KNOW THAT WALKWAY BRIDGE. IT'S A BIG DROP!
LIEB!
TRAGEDY HAS BEFALLEN SOMEONE IN SCHLOTTERBETZ GYMNASIUM SINCE THE SCHOOL'S INCEPTION.
IT'S BECAUSE THIS PLACE IS UNLUCKY
YES— LOTS
I GUESS IT MUST'VE BEEN SNOWING AT THE TIME
STOP IT!
WHY ARE YOU MOVING SO CLOSE TO ME?
JULI!

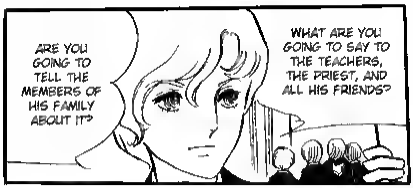
GYMNASIUM an academically-oriented German secondary school that prepares students for advanced university study. In this story, the school is split into two divisions, Intermediate and Senior, with four grades in each division.

SHH!
SEE?
SHH!
I MUST INFORM YOU ALL OF A MOST TRAGIC EVENT
THOMAS WERNER, GED THIRTEEN, A FOURTH-YEAR INTERMEDIATE STUDENT, PASSED AWAY...
LAST SATURDAY A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO
FOR HE WAS A FINE PUPIL
AND MOST OF ALL...
AND A HUGE SHOCK FOR US TO DEAL WITH...
TRULY, IT WAS AN UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT...
ON THE WALKWAY BRIDGE NEAR LEHM STATION
IT'S BELIEVED HE SLIPPED AND FELL THROUGH A BREAK IN THE WIRE FENCE...
"FINALLY, TO JULUSMOLE..."

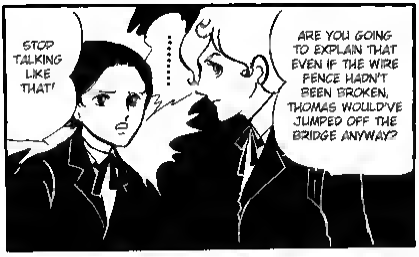

"HERE IS MY LOVE"
I'VE SEEN THOSE WORDS BEFORE... IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.
"HERE IS THE SOUND OF MY HEART"
ABRAHAM, A MAN OF DEEP RELIGIOUS FAITH, WAS ORDERED TO OFFER UP HIS BELOVED SON INSTEAD OF A SHEEP BY BEHEADING THE BOY ON AN ALTAR AS A SACRIFICE TO GOD.
"SURELY YOU WILL UNDERSTAND"
SO IS THIS THOMAS'S SACRIFICE...?
"— WILL UNDERSTAND"
A SACRIFICE TO ME? IS THAT WHY HE ENDED HIS OWN LIFE?
JULI!


AND HE LEFT HIS FINAL INSTRUCTIONS WITH YOU, DIDN'T HE?
SO THOMAS WERNER KILLED HIMSELF!

ガタン!
clatter


ARE YOU GOING TO TELL THE MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY ABOUT IT?
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO SAY TO THE TEACHERS, THE PRIEST, AND ALL HIS FRIENDS?

BECAUSE HE COULDN'T HANDLE THE BURGEONING LOVE HE FELT FOR YOU AND YOUR EXOTIC DARK HAIR
THOMAS COMMITTED SUICIDE

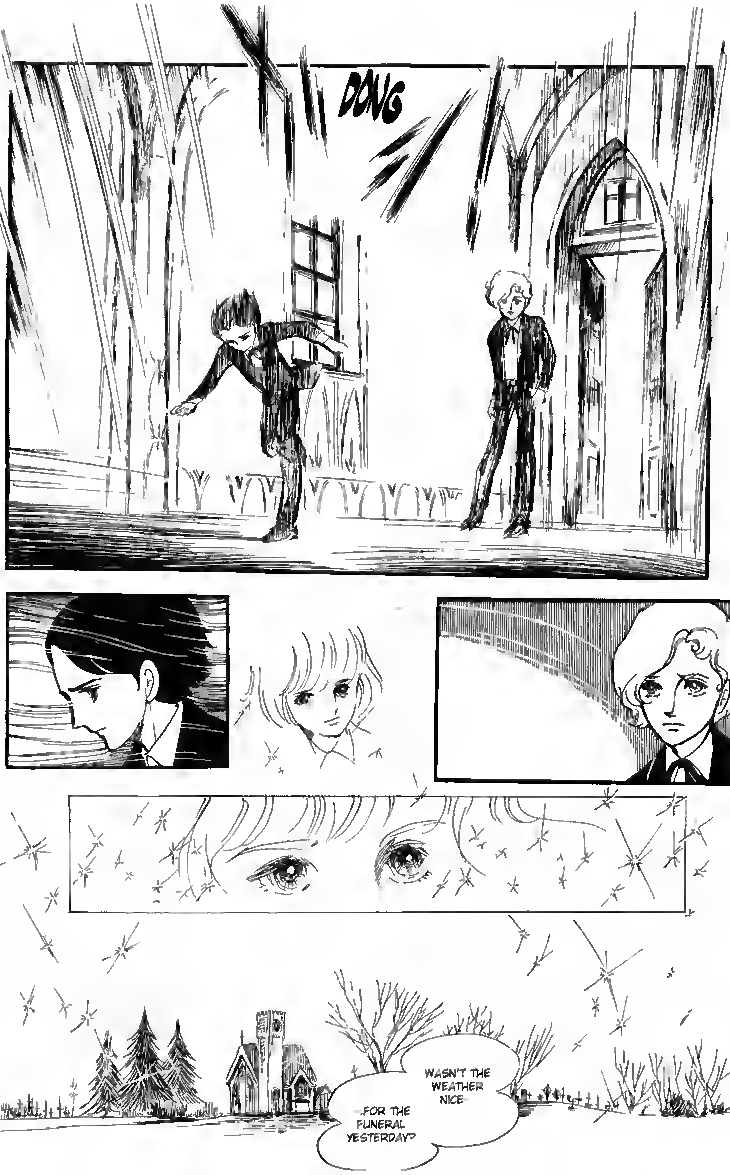

STOP TALKING LIKE THAT!
ARE YOU GOING TO EXPLAIN THAT EVEN IF THE WIRE FENCE HADN'T BEEN BROKEN, THOMAS WOULD'VE JUMPED OFF THE BRIDGE ANYWAY?

EVEN A LITTLE?
DID YOU LIKE THOMAS AT ALL?
NO!

SWIPE

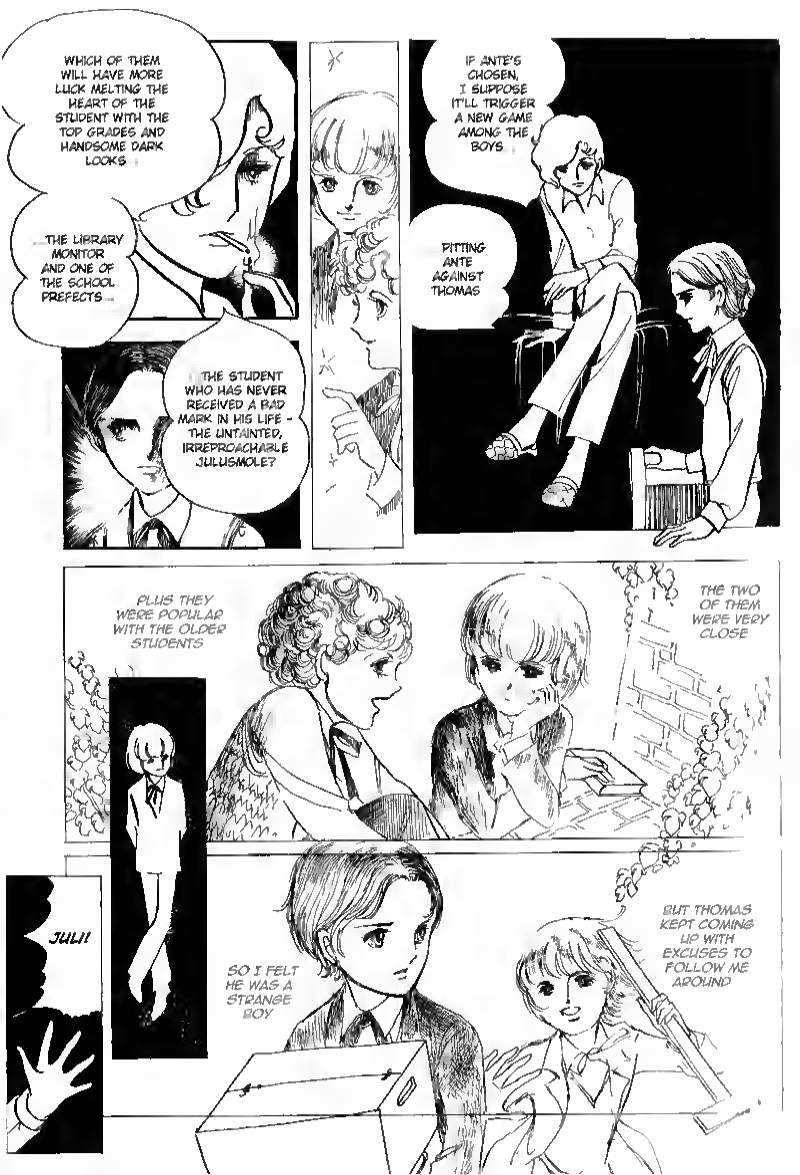
CALM DOWN
Grab
Ow!

I'M ACCEPTING IT
BY THE WAY, ARE YOU ACCEPTING THE POSITION OF HEAD PREFECT?
.....
WILL THE OTHERS ACCEPT YOU AS HEAD?
NO...
DON'T DO THAT!
ARE YOU TRYING TO ESCAPE?
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS! KEEP OUT OF MY AFFAIRS!
WAIT, JULI!
YOU'RE NOT ANSWERING ME!
.....
THAT THOMAS WERNER THREW HIS OWN LIFE AWAY?!
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO SAY?
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT MADE HIM DO IT! SO WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO TELL EVERYONE?


DONG
WASN'T THE WEATHER NICE
...FOR THE FUNERAL YESTERDAY?

UH-HUH, IT WAS A FINE SUNNY DAY. SUCH DAYS HAVE BEEN RARE LATELY
THE FLORAL TRIBUTES ALONE WERE SO PRETTY.
HIS OLDER BROTHERS WERE THERE.
BOTH OF THEM WERE GRADUATES OF SCHLOTTER-BETZ.
THOMAS'S MOTHER HAS AN UNCANNY RESEMBLANCE TO THOMAS DOESN'T SHE?
HER VOICE WAS SIMILAR TO HIS, TOO.
SOFT AND GENTLE
I FELT SO SORRY FOR HER. SHE WAS SOBBING THE WHOLE TIME.
WHAT FOR? HE'S IN A DIFFERENT YEAR. HE'S NOT A MEMBER OF OUR CLASS.
HEY, JULLISMOLE! WHY DIDN'T YOU ATTEND THE FUNERAL?
YES, BUT YOU'RE IN THE SAME SCHOOL AS HIM. PLUS YOU'RE ONE OF THE PREFECTS!
BESIDES, YOU KNEW THOMAS PERSONALLY, DIDN'T YOU?

I'M SORRY TO SAY IT, BUT I STILL CAN'T STAND HIM NOW.
I COULDN'T STAND THE SIGHT OF HIM!
clatter
EACH SATURDAY THOMAS WAS INVITED TO THEIR TEA PARTY AT JAKOB HALL!
WHO DO YOU THINK THE OLDER STUDENTS WILL PICK THIS WEEK?
Whirrr
HEY, WHAT ABOUT JULI? I WONDER IF A PRANK LIKE THAT WILL HAPPEN AGAIN?
WELL
HIM? THAT CHEEKY BRAT?!
HOW ABOUT ANTE?
OBVIOUSLY THOMAS IS DEAD AT LEAST WITH ANTE, THEY'VE STILL GOT A CHANCE TO GET LUCKY!
BUT IF THOMAS DECLARED HE LIKED ME, I'D BE OVER THE MOON ABOUT IT EVEN IF IT WAS A SILLY LIE
ANYWAY, HE'S DEAD NOW. IT'S TIME TO FORGIVE AND FORGET
IS IT ANYTHING LIKE THE MARCH HARE'S TEA PARTY FROM ALICE IN WONDERLAND?
I DISLIKE JAKOB HALL. MUST THEY HOLD IT THERE?
HMMPH

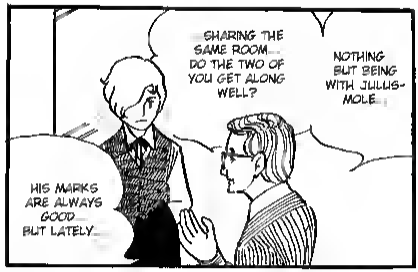

WHICH OF THEM WILL HAVE MORE LUCK MELTING THE HEART OF THE STUDENT WITH THE TOP GRADES AND HANDSOME DARK LOOKS
THE LIBRARY MONITOR AND ONE OF THE SCHOOL PREFECTS
THE STUDENT WHO HAS NEVER RECEIVED A BAD MARK IN HIS LIFE - THE UNTAINTED, IRREPROACHABLE JULIUSMOLE?
IF ANTE'S CHOSEN, I SUPPOSE IT'LL TRIGGER A NEW GAME AMONG THE BOYS
PITTING ANTE AGAINST THOMAS
PLUS THEY WERE POPULAR WITH THE OLDER STUDENTS
THE TWO OF THEM WERE VERY CLOSE
JULI!
SO I FELT HE WAS A STRANGE BOY
BUT THOMAS KEPT COMING UP WITH EXCUSES TO FOLLOW ME AROUND

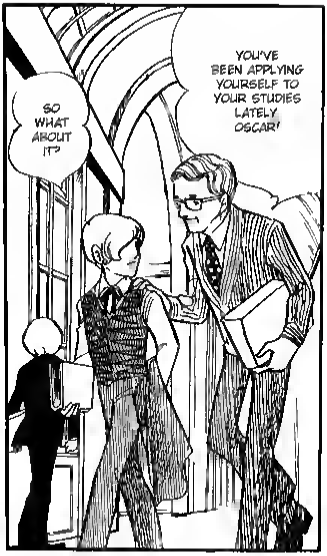
NOTE The lines on the blackboard are from the poem *Heidenröslein* by J. W. von Goethe. An English translation by Walter Mayer reads: "Then the headstrong lad did break Rosebud on the meadow." The poem is about a boy who picks a wild rose although it is also believed to be about the fragility of love and beauty as symbolized by the rose. Some also believe that *Röslein* symbolizes a beautiful country lass who is left broken (emotionally heartbroken or physically raped) by the boy.

ALL THE STUDENTS IN THIS SCHOOL ARE WAITING TO SEE IF THOMAS WINS THE BET/ THEY WANT TO SEE WHETHER YOU'LL FALL FOR HIM!
BUT MAYBE YOU KNOW ABOUT IT ALREADY!
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE BET THOMAS MADE WITH ANTE?
Und der wilde Knabe brach
's Röslein auf der Heiden
Röslein
TO BEGIN WITH, THAT OCCURRED MORE THAN SIX MONTHS AGO. THAT CAN'T BE THE REASON BEHIND HIS SUICIDE!
BUT...
THERE WAS NOTHING TO REJECT, FOR THERE WAS NOTHING BETWEEN US! ALL I DID WAS STAMP OUT HIS STUPID PRANK!
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE FINAL SCENE BETWEEN THE TWO OF YOU, BUT I HEARD ABOUT IT FROM THE OTHER BOYS. YOU CRUELLY REJECTED THOMAS IN FULL VIEW OF EVERYONE

YOU CAN IMAGINE THEIR CONTENTS, RIGHT?
YOU OUGHT TO THROW THEM OUT WITHOUT READING THEM JULIUSMOLE
HE REALLY HAS PULLED A PRANK THIS TIME - ON YOU AND ANTE AND EVERY ONE OF US.
THOMAS MUST SERIOUSLY ...BELIEVE THAT YOU LIKED HIM IN RETURN
WHAT'S HE UP TO? DOES HE THINK HE'LL MAKE YOU LOVE HIM SO BADLY THAT YOU'LL DIE FOR HIM TOO? YOU'RE NOT SUCH A PUSHOVER.
NEXT HE'LL BE SENDING YOU GOODNESS KNOWS HOW MANY LETTERS FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE.
JULIUS-MOLE, HERE IS MY LOVE!
JULIUS-MOLE!
HERE IS [redacted] OF MY HEART!
SURELY YOU WILL UNDER-STAND!
...BUT I DON'T UNDER-STAND!
WELL... WHAT NOW? SHOULDN'T WE DO OUR BIT TO GRIEVE FOR HIM?
...AND THEN WE'LL FORGET HE EVER EXISTED.
LET'S SHED A FEW TEARS IN HIS MEMORY...

AS A MATTER OF FACT, HEREIN LIES THE ORIGINS OF OUR COUNTRY
VERY GOOD JULLISMOLE
FRANKEN AND THUERINGEN FORMED THE DUCHY OF EAST FRANKEN
THE TRIBES OF SAXON, SCHWABEN, BAYERN, FRIESLAND
SO WHO CAN TELL ME THE ORIGIN OF THE NAME 'DEUTSCH'? NOW THEN... SOMEONE ELSE?
X=2x(y+z)+z
Y=2z(x+·····
scritch scritch
Pat
STOP TRYING SO HARD TO BOTTLE THINGS UP


SHARING THE SAME ROOM... DO THE TWO OF YOU GET ALONG WELL?
NOTHING BUT BEING WITH JILLIS-MOLE...
HIS MARKS ARE ALWAYS GOOD... BUT LATELY...

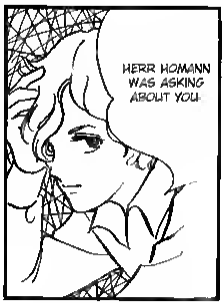

YOU'VE BEEN APPLYING YOURSELF TO YOUR STUDIES LATELY, OSCAR!
SO WHAT ABOUT IT?

WELL IT'S NOT THAT SERIOUS...

SO HOW HAS HE BEEN DOING LATELY?
HUH?

NEVER MIND EXCUSE ME FOR INTERRUPTING YOU.
PHYSICALLY THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH HIM.
MAYBE I'M MISTAKEN

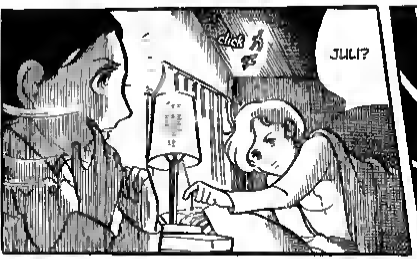
HE'S YOUR MATH TEACHER, ISN'T HE?
HE SEEMS A NICE FELLOW...
YES, HE'S BEEN ASKING ABOUT MY HEALTH BUT THE MEDICAL REPORT WAS FINE


HERR HOMANN WAS ASKING ABOUT YOU.

BUT LIFE'S TOO SHORT
shh
SUCH VICES DON'T APPEAL TO ME
CIGA-RETTE?
THAT'S RIGHT
DID I SAY SOMETHING TO ANNOY HIM? I SWEAR HE WAS GIVING OFF BRIGHT SPARKS!
Flick
TEN!
.....
crackle
THEN YOU CAN SHOUT IT TO THE ROOFTOPS AND SETTLE THIS MATTER ONCE AND FOR ALL
HURRY UP AND WORK OUT AN ANSWER TO THAT LETTER JULI

Ah!

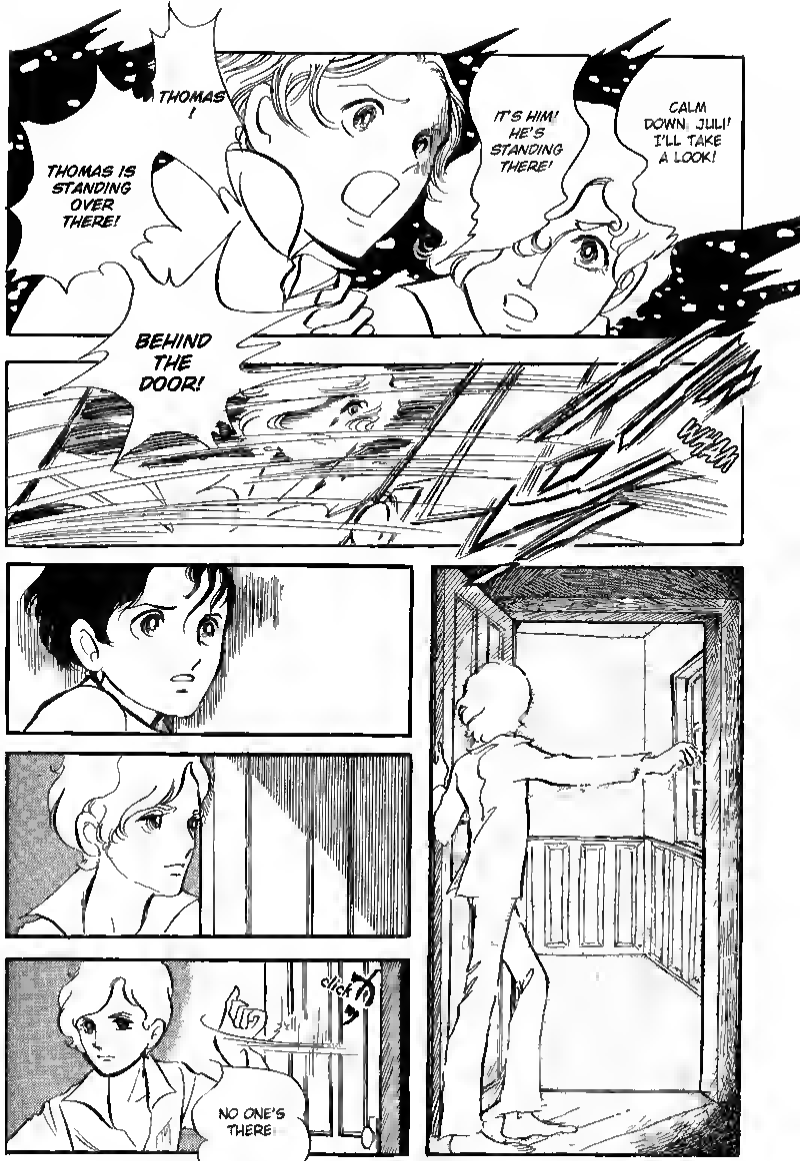
THOMAS!

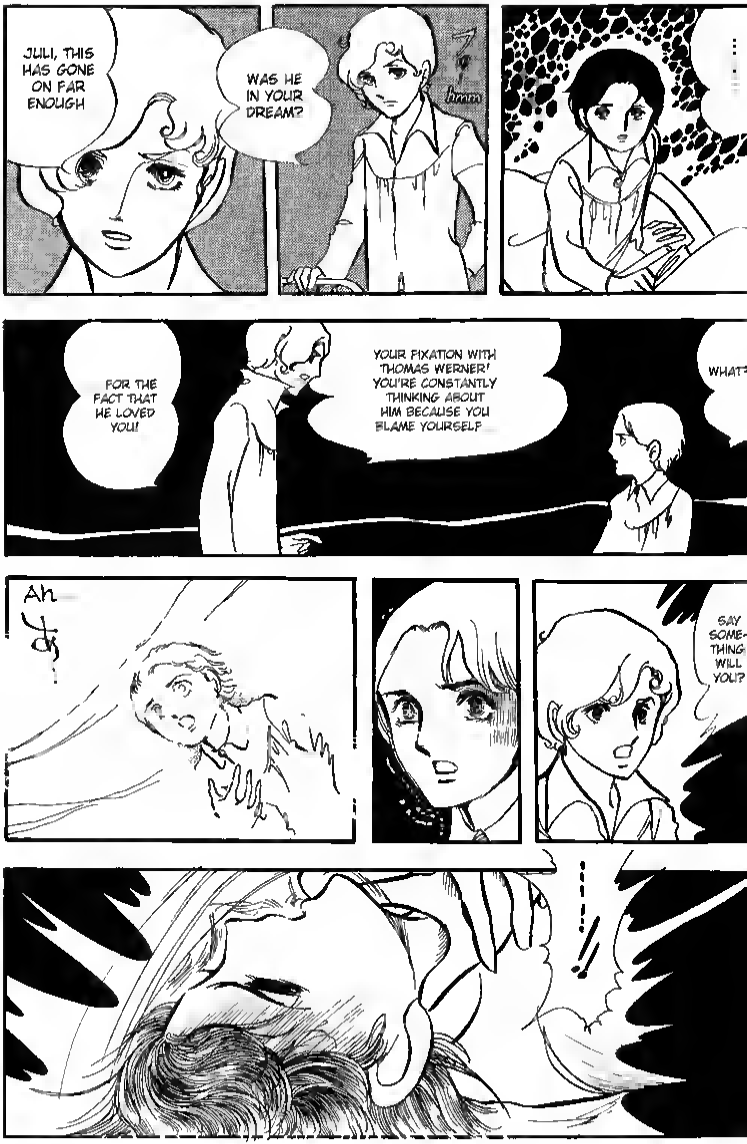

JULI?

AH
AH!

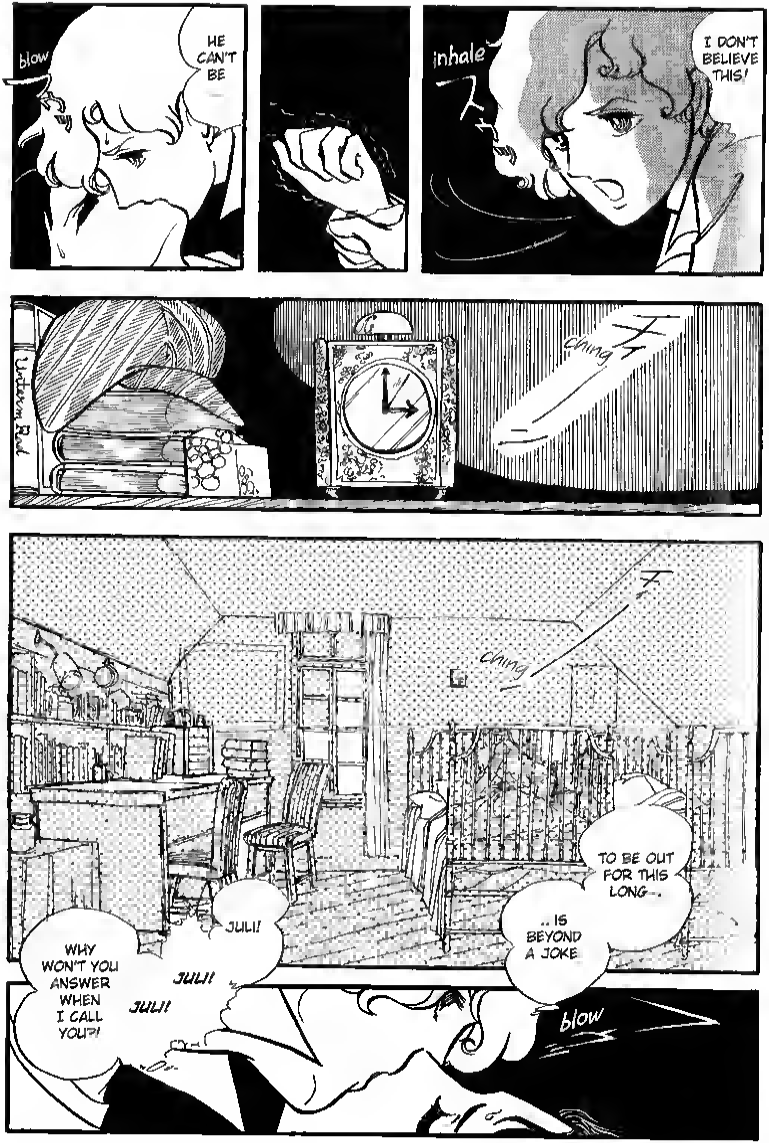
HUH?
IT WAS NOTHING JUST A DREAM.

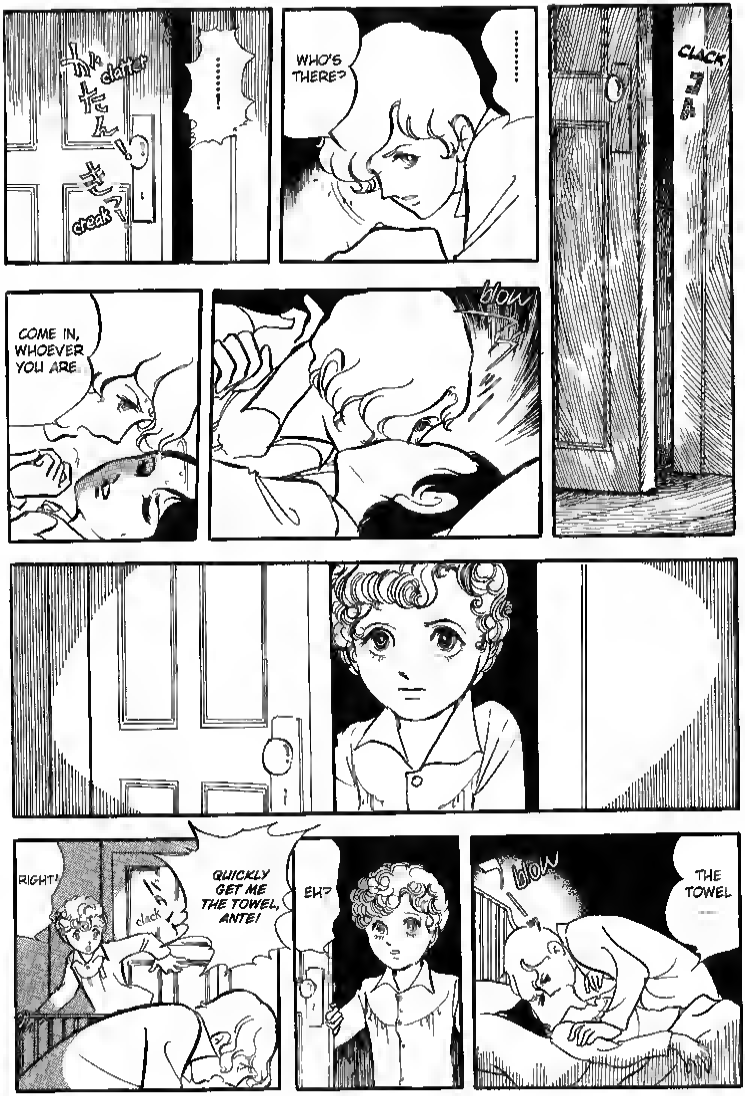
IT'S THE WIND
WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
YOUR FACE IS AS WHITE AS A SHEET.
IT MUST HAVE BEEN ONE SCARY DREAM
HOW ABOUT WE GO BACK TO SLEEP?
THE DEVIL'S HOUR - THE TIME THAT MOST DEATHS OCCUR.
NEARLY THREE O'CLOCK
WHAT'S THE TIME?
.....
I'LL TURN THE LIGHT OFF
HE'S STANDING THERE!
!
JULI?
WHO'S THERE?
OVER THERE OUTSIDE THE DOOR! I HEARD A SOUND—
HE'S THERE!
YOU'RE BEING SILLY. WHO'S GOING TO COME AT THIS HOUR?


THOMAS!
THOMAS IS STANDING OVER THERE!
IT'S HIM! HE'S STANDING THERE!
CALM DOWN, JULI! I'LL TAKE A LOOK!
BEHIND THE DOOR!
click
NO ONE'S THERE

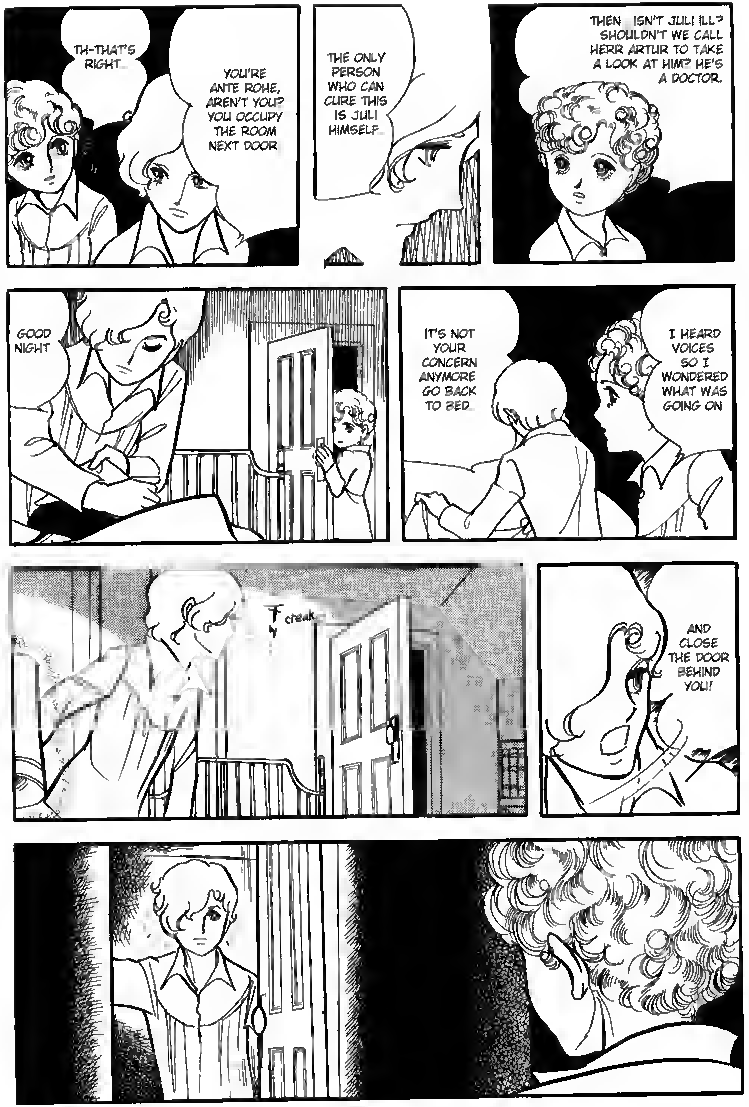

JULI, THIS HAS GONE ON FAR ENOUGH
WAS HE IN YOUR DREAM?
hmm
FOR THE FACT THAT HE LOVED YOU!
YOUR FIXATION WITH THOMAS WERNER! YOU'RE CONSTANTLY THINKING ABOUT HIM BECAUSE YOU BLAME YOURSELF
WHAT?
Ah
SAY SOMETHING WILL YOU!?

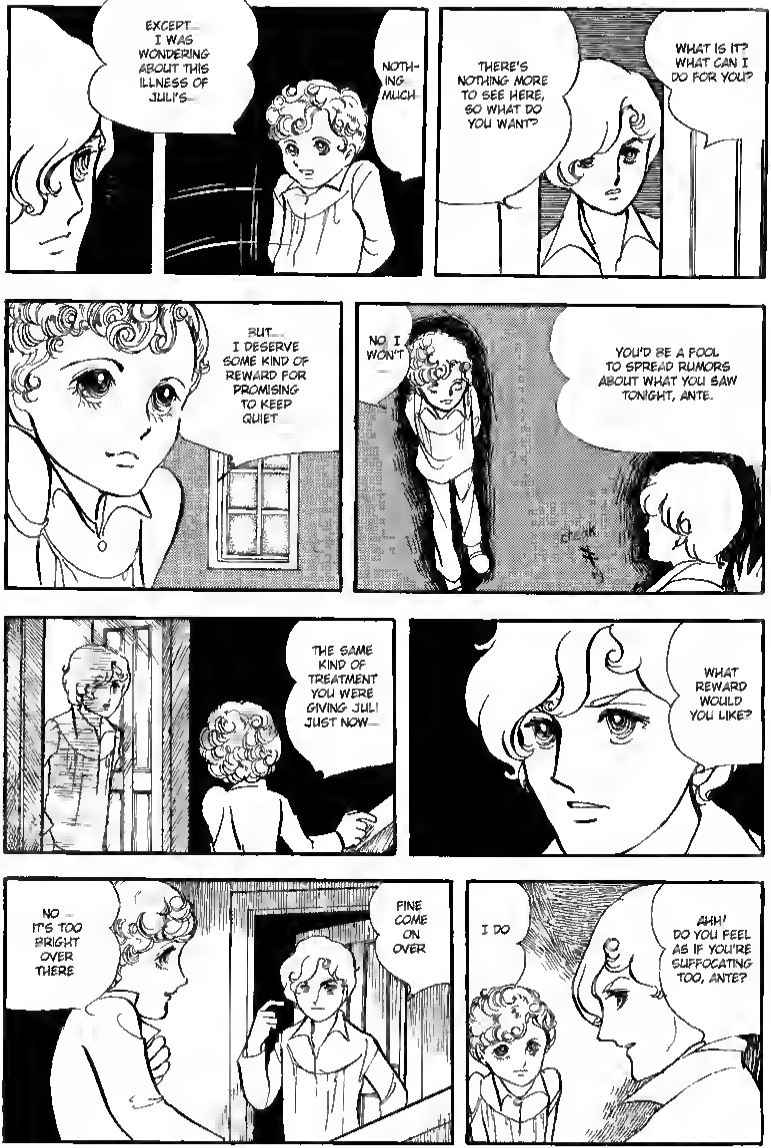
WHAT'S WRONG, JULI? JULI!
IT HURTS! CAN'T BREATHE...
MY CHEST FEELS HEAVY!
GET YOUR HAND OFF ME!
CAN'T...
AH... AH AH! AHH!
JULI!
HEY!
THOMAS! TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME...
NO... DON'T!
YOUR HANDS ARE COLD...
shudder
blow
AHH...


blow
HE CAN'T BE
inhale
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!
Uniform Bed
craving
craving
TO BE OUT FOR THIS LONG...
..IS BEYOND A JOKE
JULI!
JULI!
JULI!
WHY WON'T YOU ANSWER WHEN I CALL YOU?!
blow


creak
WHO'S THERE?
CLACK
COME IN, WHOEVER YOU ARE.
blow
RIGHT!
clack
QUICKLY GET ME THE TOWEL, ANTE!
EH?
blow
THE TOWEL

thwack
SQUEEZE IT DRY FIRST, YOU FOOL!
TOSS IT TO ME!
TH-THIS ONE?
huff...
blow!
Ah... ah...
.....
NOTHING... JUST A SEIZURE!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH JULI?


TH-THAT'S RIGHT...
YOU'RE ANTE ROHE, AREN'T YOU? YOU OCCUPY THE ROOM NEXT DOOR.
THE ONLY PERSON WHO CAN CURE THIS IS JULI HIMSELF.
THEN ISN'T JULI ILL? SHOULDN'T WE CALL HERR ARTUR TO TAKE A LOOK AT HIM? HE'S A DOCTOR.
GOOD NIGHT
IT'S NOT YOUR CONCERN ANYMORE GO BACK TO BED.
I HEARD VOICES SO I WONDERED WHAT WAS GOING ON
creak
AND CLOSE THE DOOR BEHIND YOU!


EXCEPT... I WAS WONDERING ABOUT THIS ILLNESS OF JULI'S...
NOTHING MUCH
THERE'S NOTHING MORE TO SEE HERE, SO WHAT DO YOU WANT?
WHAT IS IT? WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
BUT... I DESERVE SOME KIND OF REWARD FOR PROMISING TO KEEP QUIET
NO, I WON'T
YOU'D BE A FOOL TO SPREAD RUMORS ABOUT WHAT YOU SAW TONIGHT, ANTE.
THE SAME KIND OF TREATMENT YOU WERE GIVING JULI JUST NOW...
WHAT REWARD WOULD YOU LIKE?
NO — IT'S TOO BRIGHT OVER THERE
FINE COME ON OVER
I DO
AHH! DO YOU FEEL AS IF YOU'RE SUFFOCATING TOO, ANTE?

AH...
grab
shove
THERE! ALL FINISHED! NOW GO!
.....
slam
.....

...FOR GIVING YOU SUCH A HARD TIME...
I'M SORRY AS WELL...
squish squish
THAT WAS MY FAULT...
THANK YOU
AHH...
YOU AWAKE NOW?
IS IT ALCOHOLIC?
STOP FUSSING AND DRINK IT...
WHAT'S THAT?
DON'T THINK ABOUT THOMAS ANYMORE!
...ONCE AND FOR ALL!
DON'T THINK ABOUT HIM!
THEN OVER TIME YOU'VE GOT TO PUT AN END TO THIS...
IT'S COGNAC DILUTED WITH WATER. IT'S TO HELP YOU SLEEP WITHOUT HAVING MORE NIGHTMARES

Heidenröslein

Sah ein Knab' ein Röslein stehn,
Röslein auf der Heiden,
War so jung und morgenschön,
Lief er schnell es nah zu sehn,
Sah's mit vielen Freuden
Röslein, Röslein, Röslein rot,
Röslein auf der Heiden.

Knabe sprach: "Ich breche dich,
Röslein auf der Heiden."
Röslein sprach: "Ich steche dich,
Daß du ewig denkst an mich,
Und ich will's nicht leiden."
Röslein, Röslein, Röslein rot,
Röslein auf der Heiden.

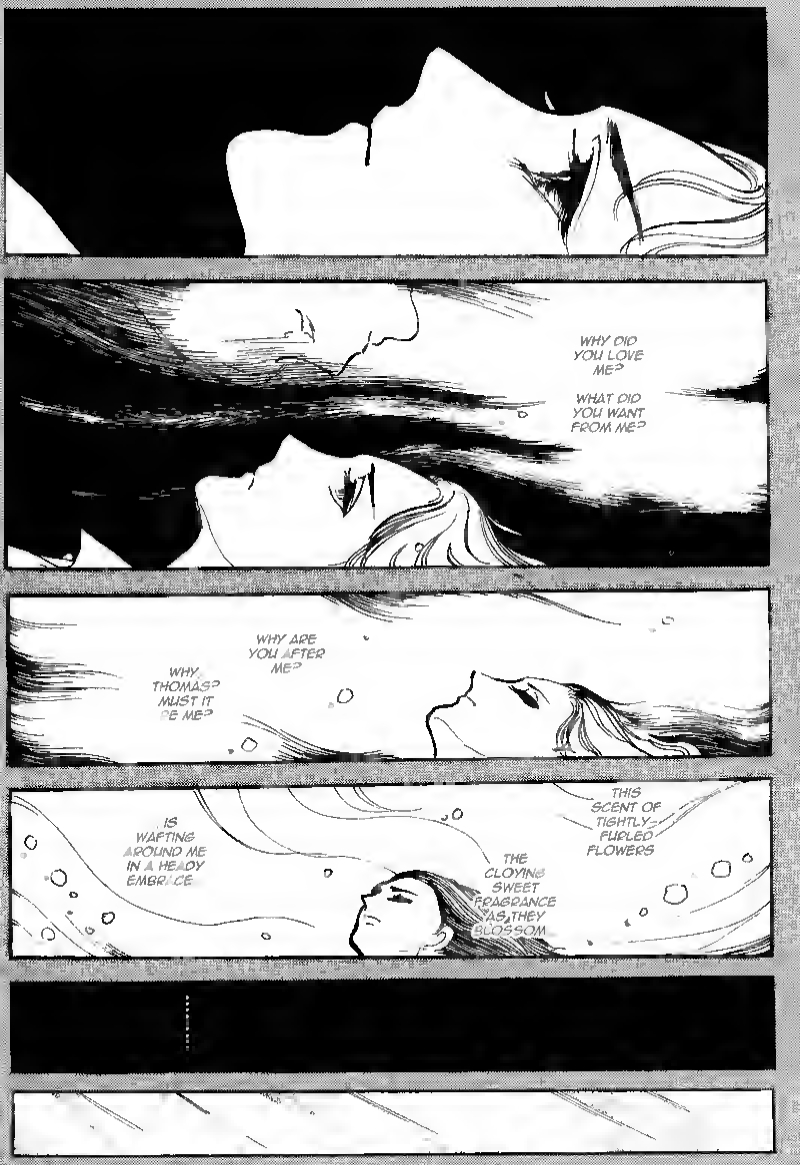
Und der wilde Knabe brach
's Röslein auf der Heiden,
Röslein wehrte sich und stach,
Half ihm doch kein Weh und Ach,
Mußt' es eben leiden.
Röslein, Röslein, Röslein rot,
Röslein auf der Heiden.

Passing lad a wild rose spied,
Rosebud on the meadow,
'Twas so fair with youthful pride
Rushed he then to be by her side,
Gazed with joy o'erflowing.
Rosebud, rosebud, rosebud red,
Wild rose on the meadow.

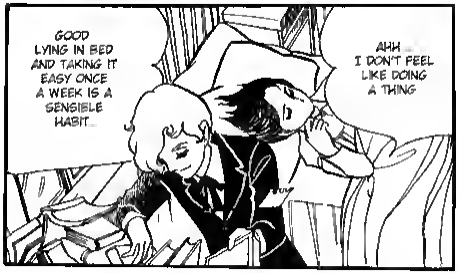
Lad said: I'll be breaking thee,
Rosebud on the meadow!
Rosebud spoke: Then I shall prickle thee,
That thou ever thinkest of me,
And I shall not ever be allowing!
Rosebud, rosebud, rosebud red,
Wild rose on the meadow.

Then the headstrong lad did break
Rosebud on the meadow.
Rosebud, in defense, did prick,
'Twas, alas, a harmless nick,
Had to be allowing.
Rosebud, rosebud, rosebud red,
Wild rose on the meadow.

Written by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe
English translation by Walter Meyer
(http://icking-music-archive.org/scores/schubert/heideng.pdf)


WHY DID YOU LOVE ME?
WHAT DID YOU WANT FROM ME?
WHY ARE YOU AFTER ME?
WHY, THOMAS? MUST IT BE ME?
THIS SCENT OF TIGHTLY-FURLED FLOWERS
IS WAFTING AROUND ME IN A HEADY EMBRACE.
THE CLOYING SWEET FRAGRANCE AS THEY BLOSSOM

MM

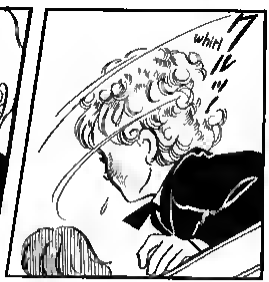

GOOD LYING IN BED AND TAKING IT EASY ONCE A WEEK IS A SENSIBLE HABIT...
AHH I DON'T FEEL LIKE DOING A THING

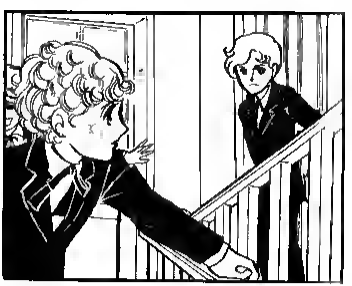
DON'T GO TO CLASS TODAY
I'LL LET THE TEACHERS KNOW YOU WON'T BE COMING IN.

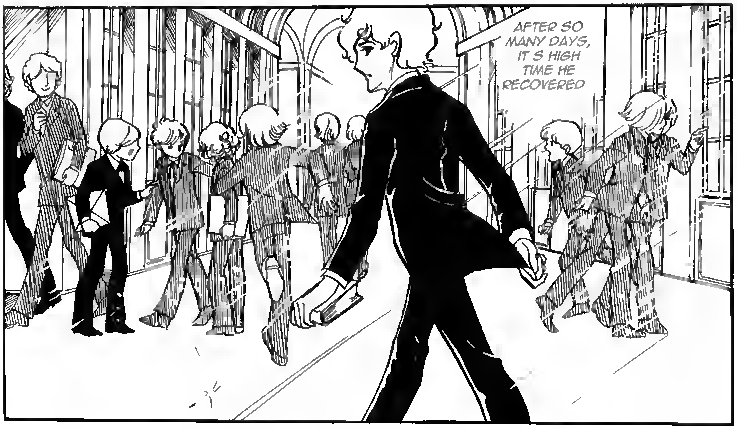
clack

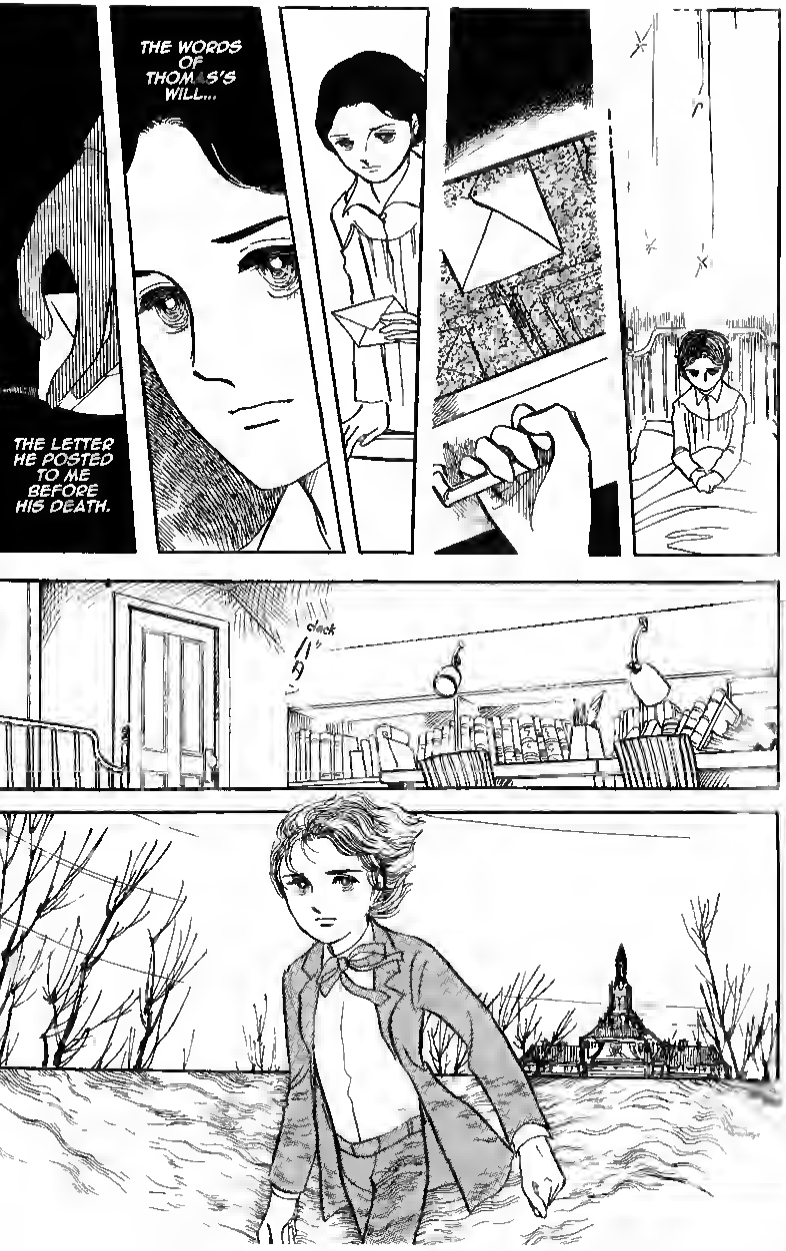
BYE!

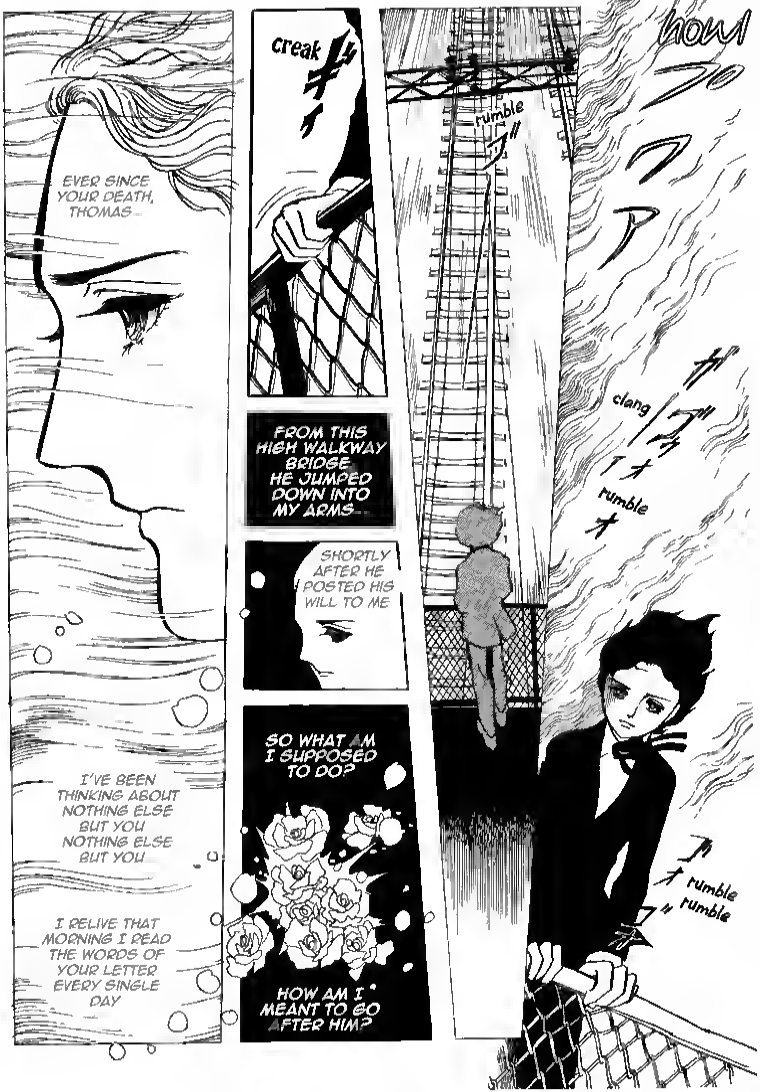
!


WHIH




AFTER SO MANY DAYS, IT'S HIGH TIME HE RECOVERED
HE HAS A BIT OF A MIGRAINE
HEY, OSCAR! GOOD MORNING! WHERE'S JULI?
FOR IT'S ALREADY BEEN TWO WEEKS SINCE POOR THOMAS WERNER DIED IN THAT ACCIDENT – WELL, IN REALITY COMMITTED SUICIDE
EVERYONE'S ALREADY COMING TO TERMS WITH IT
HE'S BECOME QUITE POPULAR NOW THAT THOMAS IS GONE
ANTE ROHE HAS BEEN INVITED TO THE TEA PARTY HOSTED BY THE OLDER STUDENTS AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR THOMAS
NOWADAYS THE BOYS WILL OCCASIONALLY ENGAGE IN A LITTLE GOSSIP ABOUT THE INCIDENT
FORGET THOMAS AND PUT THIS BEHIND HIM TOO!
SO THAT'S WHY JULI NEEDS TO...
EVERYONE IS STARTING TO FORGET ABOUT HIM.

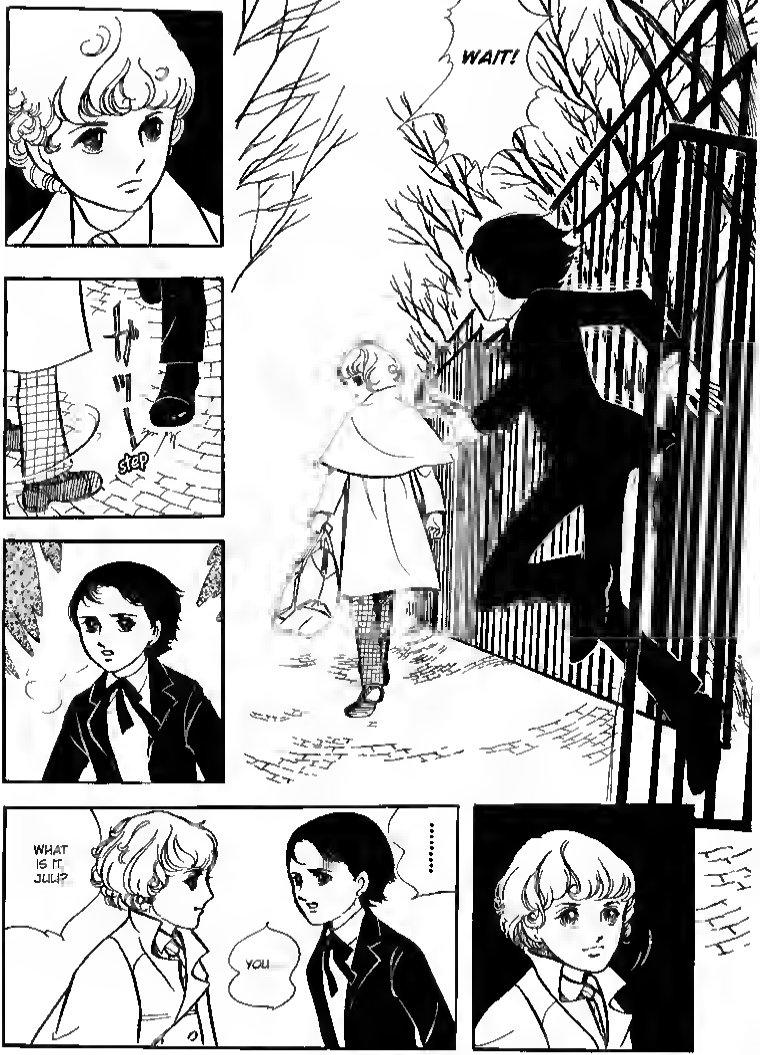

THE WORDS OF THOMAS'S WILL...
THE LETTER HE POSTED TO ME BEFORE HIS DEATH.
click


EVER SINCE YOUR DEATH, THOMAS...
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT NOTHING ELSE BUT YOU NOTHING ELSE BUT YOU...
I RELIVE THAT MORNING I READ THE WORDS OF YOUR LETTER EVERY SINGLE DAY...
creak
FROM THIS HIGH WALKWAY BRIDGE HE JUMPED DOWN INTO MY ARMS...
SHORTLY AFTER HE POSTED HIS WILL TO ME
SO WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?
HOW AM I MEANT TO GO AFTER HIM?
rumble
clang
rumble
rumble
rumble

I'M ON A QUIET FOOT PATH
" THE SOUND OF MY HEART——"
"HERE IS THE SOUND OF MY HEART"
"HERE IS MY LOVE"
"FINALLY TO JULIUSMOLEN"
I MEMORIZED YOUR LETTER BY HEART
HEY, THOMAS. IT'S ME. I'VE COME TO SEE YOU.
IT'S ME
THANKS FOR THE LETTER
FOR YOUR LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT
RIP
HERE IS MY REPLY! I WON'T BE CONTROLLED BY SOMEONE LIKE YOU!

DON'T YOU EVER APPEAR BEFORE ME THOMAS WERNER!
...NOT YOU, NOT ONE BIT!
I MYSELF WILL DECIDE WHAT'S REAL...
NOT YOU... EVER AGAIN!

.....
THOMAS·WERNER?!
dash
clang
AHH!


WAIT!
step
WHAT IS IT, JULI?
YOU...
.....

HEH. IT WAS A LUCKY GUESS!
ARE YOU ALSO A STUDENT OF SCHLOTTER-BETZ?
HUH?
SO YOU KNOW ME?!
JULI?
YES. I'M GOING TO BE A FIRST YEAR SENIOR STUDENT.
ARE YOU A SENIOR STUDENT TOO?
ARE YOU NEW HERE?
.....!
KOELN- Also known in English as Cologne
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
FROM KOELN, WESTFALEN.
WHERE ARE YOU FROM?
THAT'S HARDLY GOOD MANNERS, IS IT?
SO YOU'LL LISTEN FOR MY NAME?
I'LL FIND OUT IN ANY CASE WHEN I HEAR OTHERS CALL YOUR NAME
I DON'T FEEL LIKE TELLING YOU
.....

DID YOU KNOW THOMAS WERNER?
!?
NEVER HEARD OF HIM! THAT'S NOT MY NAME IN ANY CASE! WHAT ON EARTH'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?
NOTHING AT ALL
DID HE? SO WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH ME?
HE'S A BOY WHO KILLED HIMSELF.
WHAT? THAT'S ABSURD!
NOTHING APART FROM THE FACT THAT YOUR FACE IS EXACTLY LIKE HIS

HIS NAME MUST ORIGINATE FROM THE MONTH OF JULY. THAT'S NOT EVEN A PROPER MAN'S NAME!
I DON'T LIKE HIM OR HIS NAME!
AND THE WAY HE ACCOSTED ME WITH A BARRAGE OF QUESTIONS?
WHAT'S WITH HIS PIERCING EYES
SO IS HE CALLED JULI?
CREEPY LAD!
HE'S A DESCENDANT OF SOME AUSTRIAN ARISTOCRAT, AND MY MOTHER MARIE WAS TAKEN IN BY HIM!
IT'S THE SAME NAME AS THAT MAN WHO ACTS AS IF HE'S MY FATHER – JULI SZYD I DON'T LIKE THAT POP AND HIS MUSTACHE EITHER!
WHO DOES THAT SCOUNDREL THINK HE IS? MARIE IS MY MOTHER! HE'LL REGRET THE DAY HE EVER TOOK HER AS HIS LOVER AND SENT ME, HER ONLY CHILD AWAY TO THIS SCHOOL IN THE COUNTRYSIDE!

Clunk
SORRY!
ARE YOU A NEW STUDENT? YOU CAN ENTER FROM THE SIDE GATE ON YOUR LEFT...
SORRY!

WHAT?
shove
HEY!
HE'S
?
IS THAT YOU WERNER?
whistle
HMM
HEY!
IS HE THE NEW STUDENT?
THERE!
HUH?
LOOK AT HIM!
WHAT?!
whistle
IS HE THE NEW BOY?
whistle
SO YOU'RE THE NEW BOY?!
WHY ARE THEY SO CURIOUS ABOUT ME?
THOMAS?
AHH!
THE BOY WHO KILLED HIMSELF?
LIKE TWO PEAS IN A POD!
BUT TAKE A LOOK AT HIM! HOW CAN THEY BE SO ALIKE?
DO YOU THINK HE'S THOMAS?
STOP WHISTLING SO MUCH!

RUBBISH! YOU'RE THE RUDE ONE!
Shove
BE CAREFUL! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING!
Ah!
I'M SICK AND TIRED OF BEING CALLED THAT!
WAIT! ARE YOU A NEW BOY HERE?
HEY
MY MISTAKE IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE HEADMASTER'S OFFICE, IT'S THIS WAY
I KNOW! I LOOK A LOT LIKE THOMAS, THAT BOY WHO KILLED HIMSELF!
BUT IT'S BEST THAT I WARN YOU THAT YOU LOOK—
APOLOGIES FOR STARING EXCUSE ME IF I OFFENDED YOU IN ANY WAY

THAT KIND OF DRAMATIC TALK IS NOTHING MORE THAN ROMANTIC NONSENSE!
HOW DO YOU KNOW IT WAS SUICIDE? HE SIMPLY FELL FROM A WALKWAY BRIDGE
KILLED HIMSELF?
THOMAS WERNER'S DEATH WAS AN ACCIDENT.
JULIUSMOLE BAYHAN... YES, THAT LAD IS DEFINITELY A BIT UNSTABLE...
JULI
I KNOW! BUT JULI SAID IT HE WAS A CREEPY BOY.
DON'T WORRY THERE'S PLENTY OF PEOPLE IN THE WORLD WHO HAVE AN UNCANNY RESEMBLANCE TO SOMEONE ELSE!
UH-HUH
ACTUALLY, I THINK I FALL INTO THAT CATEGORY TOO!
HEH HEH
WHEN I DIE, I BET PEOPLE WILL SAY I'M THE EXACT IMAGE OF MY MOTHER APPARENTLY I HAVE THE FACE OF A LADY!
SO WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
HMM.
AM I SO IDENTICAL TO HIM IN LOOKS?
WHAT KIND OF BOY WAS THIS THOMAS WERNER?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE FUSS... REALLY, I HATE IT!
HE'S THE BOY WHO ENDED UP DYING IN THAT ACCIDENT.

FRUEHLING German name that means spring the season
When Oscar calls Eric Der Fruehling he s literally calling him Spring

YOU'RE DEFINITELY GOING TO CREATE A BIT OF A SENSATION AT THIS SCHOOL THAT'S FOR CERTAIN!
THEN, DER FRUEHLING...
ERIC FRUEHLING...
NOW REMEMBER, KNOCK BEFORE YOU ENTER!
WHO AM I? CALL ME OSCAR
WHO... ARE YOU?
YOU OUGHT TO KEEP THAT IN MIND, UNDERSTOOD?
HOWEVER, YOU ARE ERIC FRUEHLING... YOU'RE NOT THOMAS WERNER BY ANY MEANS
THOMAS ONLY DIED TWO WEEKS AGO. HE WAS A LAD WITH TOO MUCH TIME ON HIS HANDS.
AND ONE MORE THING...
gulp
ABOUT JULI— DON'T GET TOO FRIENDLY WITH HIM I'M NOT SURE IF THOMAS WAS MURDERED.

WHAM
clack
KNOCK ON THE DOOR BEFORE YOU ENTER!
AND WHO MIGHT YOU BE?
ERIC VON FRUEHLING.
WHAT A SCHOOL!
I SAY, ERIC... DO YOU HAVE ANY RELATIVES BY THE NAME OF WERNER?
WHAT A CRAZY... SCHOOL
I'M PLEASED TO MEET YOU I'M HEAD-MASTER MUELLER.
ERIC... AHH YOU'VE BEEN SENT HERE TO CONTINUE YOUR STUDIES
I SEE YOU'VE ARRIVED SAFELY.

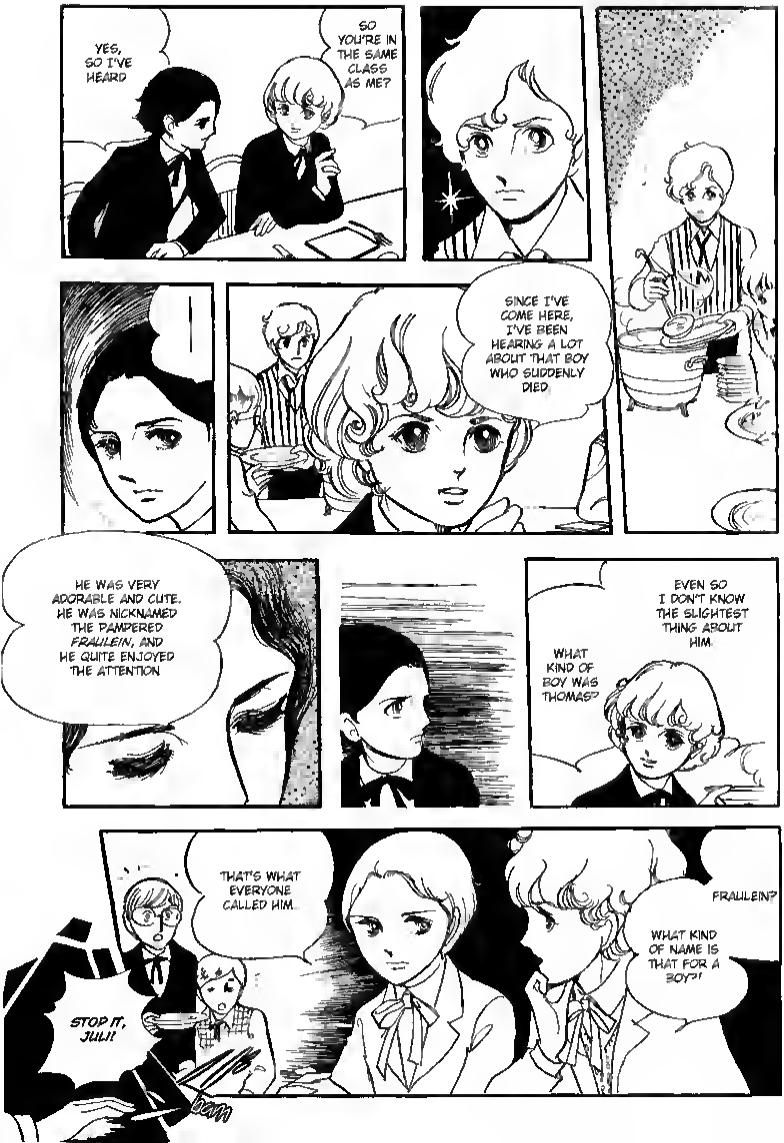
THOMAS WAS...
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS THOMAS WERNER!
MY MOTHER MARIE IS THE ONLY RELATIVE I'VE GOT!
SO THEN.
HOW ARE YOU RELATED TO YOUR GUARDIAN, JULI SZYD SCHWARTZ?
Mein
HMM... YOU MUST'VE STARTED SCHOOL A YEAR EARLIER THAN MOST STUDENTS
HE WOULD'VE BEEN IN THE GRADE BELOW YOU, BUT HE'S NO LONGER WITH US BECAUSE OF AN UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT
HE WAS A FINE PUPIL. HE WAS WELL-LIKED BY EVERYONE
MARIE IS BETROTHED TO HIM,
...BUT I DISAPPROVE OF THE UNION
I DON'T FEEL LIKE TAKING THE PLACE OF A DEAD BOY!
JULI WOULD NEVER HAVE PRETENDED TO BE ILL! AND HE'D NEVER LEAVE THE SCHOOL GROUNDS WITHOUT PERMISSION EITHER!
BUT HE CAN'T BE FOUND ANYWHERE! HE'S NOT IN HIS ROOM OR THE DINING HALL OR THE LIBRARY!
SINCE CLASS HAS ALREADY ENDED FOR THE DAY YOU CAN CHANGE INTO YOUR UNIFORM BEFORE DINNER.
Kachik
WELL COME WITH ME THIS IS THE PRIVATE STUDY ROOM

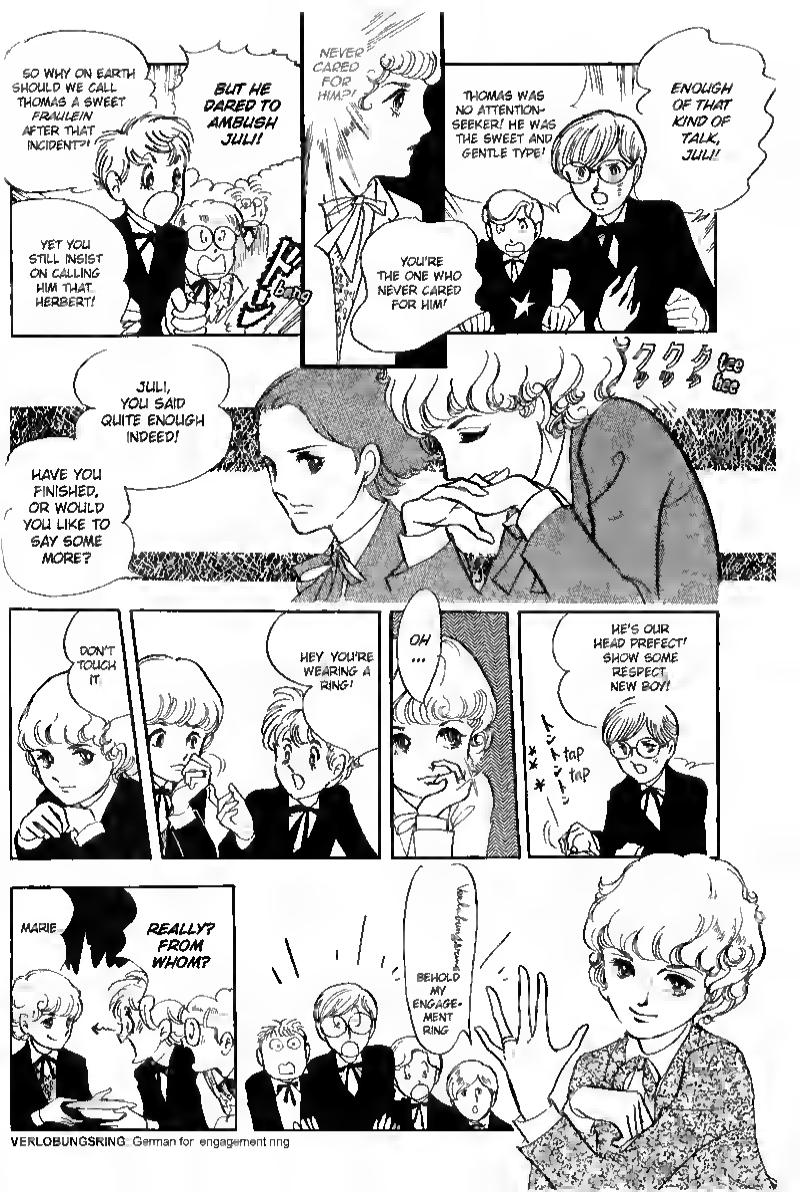
HEY!
WOW!
AHH!
EH?
Chicken
SILENCE, EVERYONE!
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE A NEW STUDENT TO OUR SCHOOL...
hush
It can't be!
Who is he?
Thomas
MY TALENT IS FENCING!
I'M ERIC FRUEHLING OF KOELN!
DO ANY OF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT?
BAM
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
kachik

WHO'S HE?
squeak
キュー!
WHERE DID YOU MEET ERIC FRUEHLING?
HE EVEN DECLARED THAT THOMAS KILLED HIMSELF!
THE NEW STUDENT! HE WAS TALKING ABOUT THOMAS!
DID YOU SPEAK TO ERIC?
ERIC FRUEHLING ...
THE CEMETERY ?!
I WENT TO THE CEMETERY. I MET HIM ON THE WAY BACK.
I STOOD BEFORE THOMAS'S GRAVE AND RIPPED HIS WILL TO SHREDS

THAT'S THE DINNER BELL. LET'S GO
clang
JULI
YOU LOOK AS IF A HEAVY WEIGHT HAS BEEN LIFTED FROM YOUR SHOULDERS
JULI WHAT NEXT... JULI?
BUT WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING THROUGH YOUR MIND?
ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT THOMAS...
...OR ERIC?
JULI, HE'S NOT THOMAS!
HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT ERIC?
SEE? THERE HE IS! HE'S THE NEW BOY FROM KOELN WHO ARRIVED TODAY!
HE'S GOING TO BE A FIRST YEAR SENIOR
HUH?
HE'LL JOIN THE SENIOR STUDENTS
TAKE A LOOK!

THAT'S RIGHT, ANTE!
HIM?
SURPRISING, HUH? HE'S A GREAT LIKENESS!
OVER HERE, ERIC!
HMPH! HE'S NOT THOMAS
HMM THE COLOR OF HIS HAIR AND EYES ARE DIFFERENT
Pfeu
HE'LL NEVER BE THOMAS...
OH NO!
I MET HIM AT THE CEMETERY! HE'S THAT FELLOW I DISLIKED!
THOMAS, THOMAS!
THIS SCHOOL IS DRIVING ME INSANE!
scrape
MY FACE IS NOT SOME EXHIBITION DISPLAY FOR YOU TO GAWK AT!


YES, SO I'VE HEARD
SO YOU'RE IN THE SAME CLASS AS ME?
SINCE I'VE COME HERE, I'VE BEEN HEARING A LOT ABOUT THAT BOY WHO SUDDENLY DIED.
HE WAS VERY ADORABLE AND CUTE. HE WAS NICKNAMED THE PAMPERED FRAULEIN, AND HE QUITE ENJOYED THE ATTENTION.
WHAT KIND OF BOY WAS THOMAS?
EVEN SO I DON'T KNOW THE SLIGHTEST THING ABOUT HIM.
THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE CALLED HIM.
FRAULEIN?
WHAT KIND OF NAME IS THAT FOR A BOY?!
STOP IT, JULI!
bam


SO WHY ON EARTH SHOULD WE CALL THOMAS A SWEET FRAULEIN AFTER THAT INCIDENT?!
BUT HE DARED TO AMBUSH JULI!
YET YOU STILL INSIST ON CALLING HIM THAT HERBERT!
Bang
NEVER CARED FOR HIM?!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO NEVER CARED FOR HIM!
THOMAS WAS NO ATTENTION-SEEKER! HE WAS THE SWEET AND GENTLE TYPE!
ENOUGH OF THAT KIND OF TALK, JULI!
JULI, YOU SAID QUITE ENOUGH INDEED!
HAVE YOU FINISHED, OR WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAY SOME MORE?
tee hee
DON'T TOUCH IT
HEY YOU'RE WEARING A RING!
OH ...
HE'S OUR HEAD PREFECT! SHOW SOME RESPECT, NEW BOY!
tap tap
MARIE
REALLY? FROM WHOM?
BEHOLD MY ENGAGE-MENT RING

VERLOBUNGSRING: German for engagement ring

IT'S TOO TIGHT FOR ME TO REMOVE... I'D HAVE TO CUT MY FINGER OFF...
YOU SHOULD TAKE THAT RING OFF!
THEN CUT IT OFF!
MEINE MUTTER, MY MAMA
MARIE? WHO'S SHE?
EVERYONE'S ENTITLED TO THEIR LIKES AND DISLIKES! YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO AGGRAVATE PEOPLE, NEW BOY!
SO DIDN'T YOU CARE FOR THOMAS? WHY NOT?
JULI
WHAT AN IDIOT!
NEW BOY? STOP CALLING ME 'NEW BOY'! I'M JUST HAVING A CHAT WITH OUR HEAD PREFECT, FRECKLE-FACE!
—BEHIND THE DEATH OF THOMAS WERNER...
I THINK IT'S TIME YOU TOLD US THE REAL TRUTH...

IT WAS AN ACCIDENT HIS FOOT SLIPPED FROM THE WALKWAY BRIDGE
BUT WERE YOU THERE?
IT WAS AN ACCI-DENT
SPLASH
YOU PUSHED HIM OFF DIDN'T YOU?
RIGHT! NOW I'M CONVINCED YOU'RE A MURDERER!
AH..
cling!
LIE!
GO GET HIM, JULI! DO A HEADBUTT, FOLLOWED BY A SHOULDER CRASH AND A BODY SLAM!

shove
YOU'VE GOT NO MANNERS AT ALL! TAKE THAT!
AH!
STOP THAT, ERIC!
Wah!
SLIP
SLIP
WHAT IS IT?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
YOU MISSED ME!
THAT WAS CLOSE!
crash
A DIRECT HIT!
WAH!
HEY!
WATCH OUT! IT'LL TOPPLE OVER!
THERE!
HOW ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE UP FOR RUINING MY NEW SUIT?!
NO MORE!
BUT IT WASN'T ME!
speechless
UGH! YOU MUST BE JOKING!
KAA!

DON'T—
REMAIN IN YOUR SEATS, ALL OF YOU!
splish!
W-WHAT'S GOING ON?! EVERYONE, STOP THIS AT ONCE!
OH MY!
clunk
AH!H...
Mmm
HEY! STOP THAT OR ELSE, YOU IDIOTS!
YOU'RE THE ONE AT FAULT!
whisle
I'VE GOT A SCORE TO SETTLE WITH YOU!
splosh
STO—
HEY! IS THIS YOUR IDEA OF SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE?!
crash
bonk
bonk
OSCAR, YOU

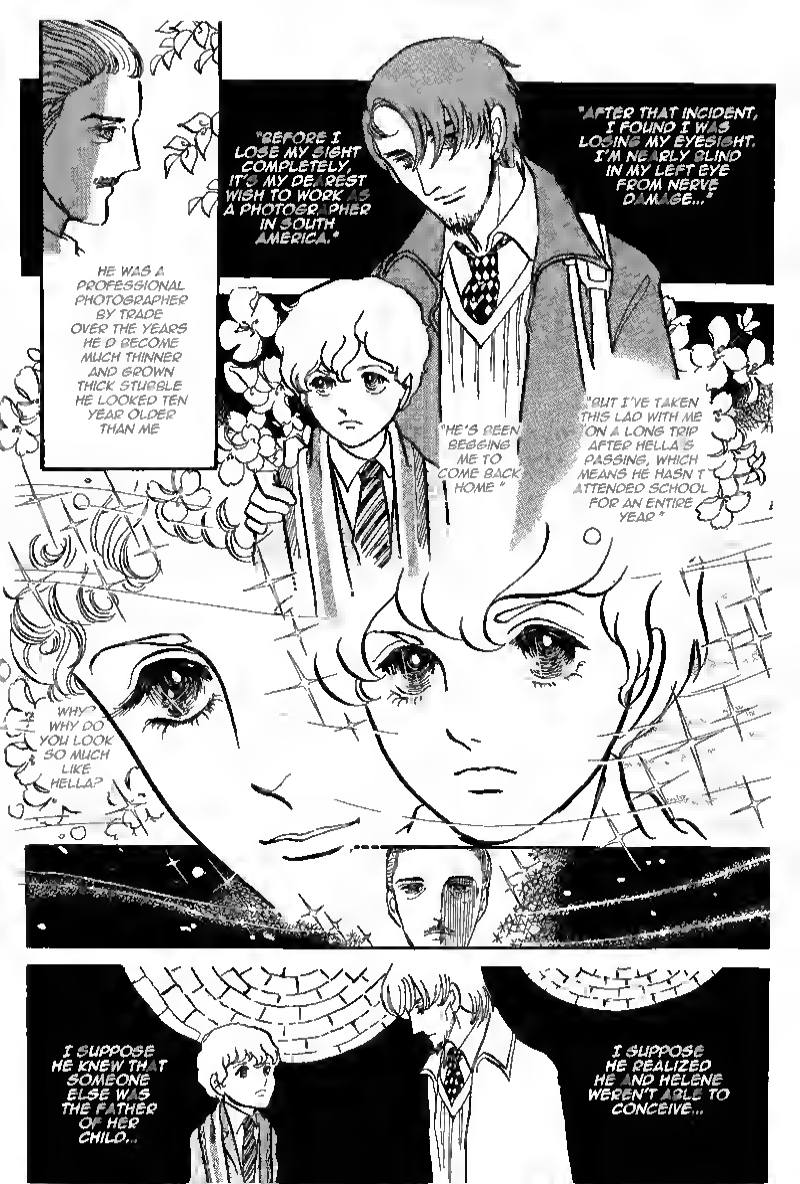
YOU THINK YOU CAN TREAT ME ANY WAY YOU LIKE?!
ゴー
SLAP
.....
AH

COME ON!
crash
AH...
chatter chatter
DINNER IS OVER FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO LEFT YOUR SEATS!
CLEAN YOURSELVES UP, CHANGE YOUR CLOTHES, AND GO TO BED ON THE DOUBLE!!
thud thud thud
WHAT RIGHT?!
WHAT RIGHT DO YOU HAVE TO ORDER ME ABOUT?
conk
YOU STAY, LE BEBE!
TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT WHAT YOU'VE DONE!

PHEW!
OSCAR REISER OFTEN NEGLECTS HIS SCHOOLWORK, BUT HIS JUDGMENT AND ABILITY TO TAKE DECISIVE ACTION ARE CRUCIAL AT TIMES LIKE THESE!
Slam
THE BUILDING WOULD'VE BEEN RAZED TO THE GROUND IN ANOTHER THIRTY SECONDS.
HE HAS LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL!
VERY WELL, SIR.
HOWEVER, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO FINISH YOUR DINNER.
BUT I NEVER LEFT MY SEAT!
ANTE ROWE LEAVE THIS DINING HALL AS WELL!
BY THE WAY, WHAT BECAME OF OSCAR'S FATHER?
IT'S BEEN FOUR YEARS SINCE WE LAST SAW HIM.
HEH HEH
EVEN AS THE NEW STUDENT, OSCAR WAS A BRASH AND CHEEKY BOY!
whistle
HE NEVER CAME BACK TO VISIT HIM OR ANY OF US.

HERR GUSTAV REISER PAID A VISIT TO SCHLOTTERBETZ HOLDING THE HAND OF HIS YOUNG SON OSCAR
FOUR YEARS AGO BENEATH A HAZY SKY FILLED WITH CHERRY BLOSSOMS
IT'S BEEN EIGHTEEN MONTHS SINCE MY WIFE PASSED AWAY
YES, I KNEW
GUSTAV AND I WERE FRIENDS BACK IN UNIVERSITY
WHILE IN THE FLUSH OF YOUTH WE COMPETED FOR THE AFFECTIONS OF THE BEAUTIFUL HELENE
IN THE END, HELENE MARRIED GUSTAV

UNTIL I ARRIVED HERE AS THE FIFTH HEADMASTER OF SCHLOTTER-BETZ
I EMBARKED ON THE SOLITARY CAREER OF A SCHOLAR
WHEN CAN I EXPLAIN TO YOU THAT YOU WERE BROUGHT INTO THIS WORLD OUT OF MY LOVE FOR HELENE?
OSCAR, HOW SHOULD I TELL YOU THAT YOU'RE MY SON?
IT'S NOT THAT I'VE COMPLETELY LOST HOPE...
BEAUTIFUL HELLA HELLA, WHO WAS LIKE A WHITE BIRD...
OHH... I DO LOVE GUSTAV
I'M OTHERWISE HEALTHY... AND I'VE HEARD THERE ARE ARTIFICIAL MEANS
THE PEISERS WERE UNABLE TO CONCEIVE A CHILD OF THEIR OWN FOR A LONG TIME
BUT I WANT A CHILD SO MUCH!
A FEW DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS
HE EXPLAINED THAT HE'D ACCIDENTALLY SHOT HER WITH A PISTOL
EIGHTEEN MONTHS BEFORE GUSTAV CAME TO SCHLOTTER-BETZ, HIS WIFE DIED


"BEFORE I LOSE MY SIGHT COMPLETELY, IT'S MY DEAREST WISH TO WORK AS A PHOTOGRAPHER IN SOUTH AMERICA."
"AFTER THAT INCIDENT, I FOUND I WAS LOSING MY EYESIGHT. I'M NEARLY BLIND IN MY LEFT EYE FROM NERVE DAMAGE..."
HE WAS A PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER BY TRADE OVER THE YEARS HE'D BECOME MUCH THINNER AND GROWN THICK STUBBLE HE LOOKED TEN YEAR OLDER THAN ME
"HE'S BEEN BEGGING ME TO COME BACK HOME."
"BUT I'VE TAKEN THIS LAD WITH ME ON A LONG TRIP AFTER HELLA'S PASSING, WHICH MEANS HE HASN'T ATTENDED SCHOOL FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR."
WHY? WHY DO YOU LOOK SO MUCH LIKE HELLA?
I SUPPOSE HE KNEW THAT SOMEONE ELSE WAS THE FATHER OF HER CHILD..
I SUPPOSE HE REALIZED HE AND HELENE WEREN'T ABLE TO CONCEIVE...

WHEN DO I TELL HIM?
"OSCAR, I AM YOUR
TRUE FATHER."
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING, GUSTAV...
...ALL THOSE YEARS IN SOUTH AMERICA?
YOU MIGHT NEVER COME BACK TO SEE HIM AGAIN.
I SUPPOSE THAT'S WHY HE BROUGHT OSCAR HERE TO MY SCHOOL
YES, HE'S IN OUR GRADE. HE WAS TRAVELING FOR A YEAR, SO HE MISSED A LOT OF SCHOOL. THAT'S WHY HE'S A YEAR BEHIND.
OW!
DAMN HIM! HE SLAPPED ME SO HARD!
ERR... ABOUT OSCAR, THAT TALL BOY...
IS HE REALLY A FIRST YEAR SENIOR LIKE US?
A TWIN ROOM? SO THERE'RE ROOMS LIKE THAT HERE?
IT MUST BE NICE TO HAVE A TWIN ROOM LIKE THEM!
HE AND JULI SHARE THE SAME ROOM.
HE'S THE ONLY SON OF AN OLD FRIEND OF OUR HEADMASTER, YOU SEE.
ERIC, IT'S BEST NOT TO ANTAGONIZE OSCAR.
HE'S EVEN GOT THE RESPECT OF THE HEADMASTER!

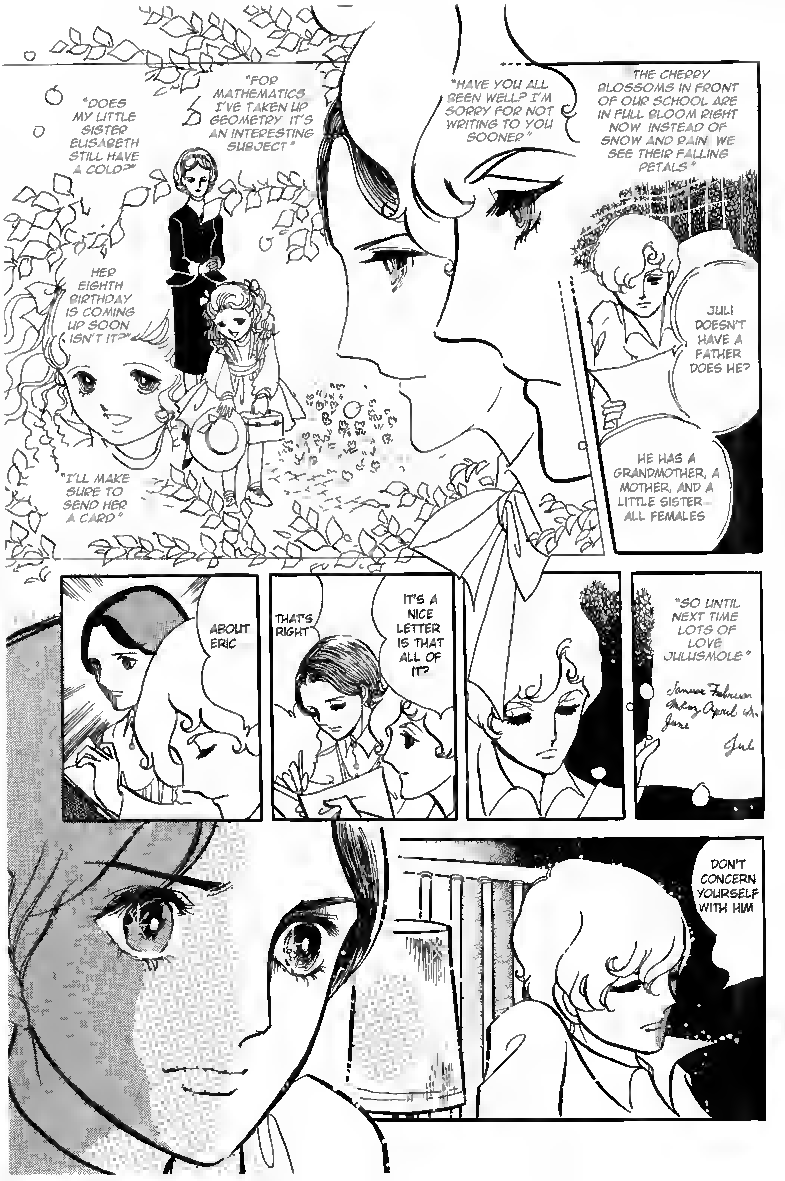
AS THE DORMITORY SUPERVISORS OF JOHANNES HALL, JULI AND OSCAR SHARE A TWIN ROOM OVER THERE
LOOK! SEE JOHANNES HALL OVER THERE?
THAT'S THE DORMITORY FOR THE INTERMEDIATE GRADES FIRST TO FOURTH YEARS
HOW DARE YOU !
YOU MEAN JULI WAS EVEN CHOSEN AHEAD OF THE LIKES OF YOU LOT?
PUPILS IN CHARGE OF DORMS? REALLY?
thwack
DON'T TOUCH ME!
YOU DON'T MIND ME PLAYING WITH THEM, DO YOU? THEY SPRING RIGHT BACK!
WHY, DEAR ERIC YOU'VE GOT RINGLETS BEHIND YOUR EARS SHAPED LIKE TENDRILS OF CRIMSON GLORY VINE
THOMAS WAS OFTEN INVITED TO THE TEA PARTY BECAUSE HE WAS GENTLE AND SWEET, BUT YOU'RE SOMETHING ELSE!
THAT NEW BOY IS TOUGH!
PFFF!
PREPARE FOR BED! IT'S PAST OUR CURFEW!

DAMMIT, I DON'T KNOW AND I DON'T CARE ABOUT THIS BRAT NAMED THOMAS!
HA HA! OSCAR USED IT ON YOU!
IT MEANS BABY!
IT'S FRENCH
LE BEBE ?
DON'T CREATE A RUCKUS IN MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, LE BEBE!
QUICK! PREPARE FOR BED!
DESPITE WHAT YOU MAY THINK, YOU'RE NOW IN A SCHOOL! AS PART OF LIVING IN A DORMITORY, YOU SHOULD OBEY OUR BASIC RULES AND STRUCTURES! NOW BEHAVE YOURSELF!
WHAT ARE YOU JABBING ME FOR?! I'M THE ONE IN CHARGE OF THIS ROOM!
LITTLE WHAT?
YOU, LITTLE
clap
LIEB! ADAM! YOU THERE, IGOR! FINISH WASHING YOURSELVES THIS MINUTE!

HE'S NOT TYPICAL ROYALTY, IS HE?
DID YOU HEAR? OUR LITTLE FRIEND HAS ALWAYS HAD A PRIVATE TUTOR!
WHO'S HE THE SON OF?
HE EVEN WEARS A RING!
YES. AND IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN TO SCHOOL AS WELL
ANYWAY, I GUESS IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME LIVING AS A BOARDING STUDENT
LIGHTS OUT
SCHOOL? SURELY YOU'VE BEEN TO SCHOOL BEFORE?
NO. MARIE NEVER ALLOWED ME TO GO. I HAD A TUTOR WHO CAME TO MY HOME
AT SCHOOL...
THERE'S SO MANY DIFFERENT PEOPLE...
IT'S A NOISY AND BOISTEROUS PLACE, FULL OF EXCITEMENT.
BUT AS FOR THAT FELLOW...
sigh
WHAT'S WITH HIM?
I LOOK A LOT LIKE THAT DEAD BOY THOMAS,
BUT HE NEVER TOOK A LIKING TO THOMAS
HE WATCHES ME WITH A TREACHEROUS GAZE
HE'S GOING TO BE BIG TROUBLE...

SCHOOL IS USE-LESS!
SO I'LL GO BACK HOME AT ONCE!
"MARIE! I'M BACK!
THEN I'LL LEAD INTO HER ARMS AGAIN!
"MY DEAR BRIGITTE COME BACK HOME! MAMA MADE A MISTAKE!"
SOON A LETTER WILL ARRIVE FOR ME.
CAN MARIE MANAGE WITHOUT MY COMPANY?
AUSTRIAN MAN BE MORE IMPORTANT TO HER THAN ME?
MARIE...

SORRY, BUT I'M KEEPING THE LIGHT ON FOR A BIT...
FOR I'M WRITING A LETTER TO MY FAMILY BACK HOME
LET'S GO STRAIGHT TO BED. TIME TO SLEEP!
IT'S THE END OF ANOTHER DAY
ROLL-CALL WAS TAKEN WITHOUT A HITCH
SURE, I DON'T MIND
CAN YOU SLEEP WITH THE LIGHT ON?
THAT'S HOW LONG IT'S BEEN SINCE THOMAS WERNER DIED
TWO WEEKS
COME TO THINK OF IT, JULI HASN'T WRITTEN A LETTER TO HIS FAMILY FOR THE PAST TWO WEEKS
ISN'T IT AN ODD COINCIDENCE? AS DORM SUPERVISORS WHO SHARE THE SAME ROOM, OSCAR HAS NO MOTHER
WHILE I HAVE NO FATHER
I THINK WE'VE DEVELOPED A MUTUAL ENVY OF EACH OTHER BECAUSE WE SPEND A LOT OF TIME TOGETHER
YOU ALWAYS LIKE READING MY LETTERS DON'T YOU?
SURE IT'S NOTHING SPECIAL
CAN I TAKE A LOOK?
rip
BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE A PROPER FAMILY OF MY OWN
AHH, I FIND LETTERS ADDRESSED TO ONE'S FAMILY QUITE FASCINATING...
IF I WERE TO MAIL A LETTER TO MY FATHER IN SOUTH AMERICA, IT WOULDN'T REACH HIM FOR ANOTHER FOUR YEARS OR SO!


"DOES MY LITTLE SISTER ELISABETH STILL HAVE A COLD?"
"FOR MATHEMATICS I'VE TAKEN UP GEOMETRY IT'S AN INTERESTING SUBJECT"
HER EIGHTH BIRTHDAY IS COMING UP SOON ISN'T IT?
"I'LL MAKE SURE TO SEND HER A CARD"
"HAVE YOU ALL BEEN WELL? I'M SORRY FOR NOT WRITING TO YOU SOONER"
THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS IN FRONT OF OUR SCHOOL ARE IN FULL BLOOM RIGHT NOW INSTEAD OF SNOW AND RAIN WE SEE THEIR FALLING PETALS"
JULI DOESN'T HAVE A FATHER DOES HE?
HE HAS A GRANDMOTHER, A MOTHER, AND A LITTLE SISTER— ALL FEMALES
ABOUT ERIC
THAT'S RIGHT
IT'S A NICE LETTER IS THAT ALL OF IT?
"SO UNTIL NEXT TIME LOTS OF LOVE JULIUSMOLE"
DON'T CONCERN YOURSELF WITH HIM

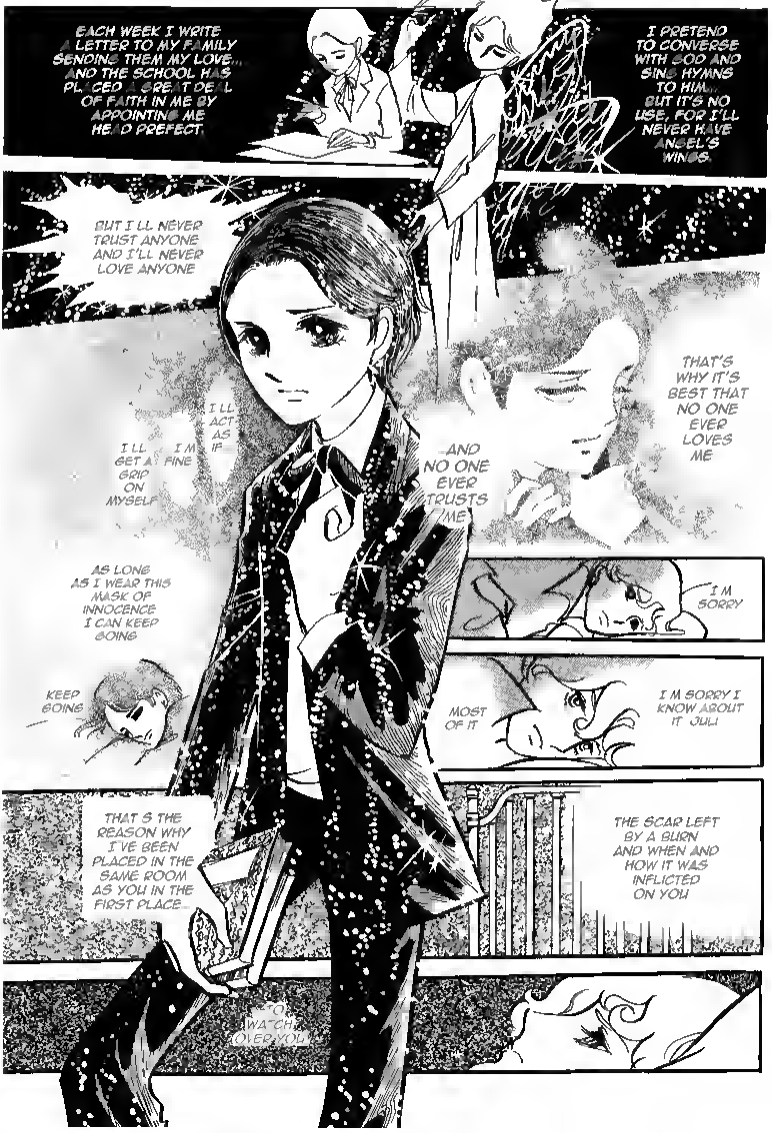
DON'T BE ILL BE ALL RIGHT WITHOUT YOUR HELP
WELL, I'M STILL WORRIED ABOUT YOU
YOU'RE THE ONE
—WHO SHOULDN'T CONCERN YOURSELF ABOUT ME
!
REALLY ?
IF THAT'S THE CASE GOOD FOR YOU
I'M NOT CONCERNED ABOUT HIM.
IF I THOUGHT YOU WERE OF SOUND MIND, THEN OF COURSE I'D LEAVE YOU ALONE!
THEN DON'T MAKE ME WORRY SO MUCH!
HOW CAN I NOT BE CONCERNED ABOUT YOU HAVING WEIRD FITS IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT?!
IT'S PAST THE TIME FOR LIGHTS OUT AND I'VE ALREADY WRITTEN MY LETTER
GOOD NIGHT
JULI!
click
!
click
BUT THAT'S NO—
YOU LOST YOUR TEMPER WITH THE NEW BOY, DIDN'T YOU?
HE KEPT HARPING ON ABOUT THOMAS
I KNOW HE DID

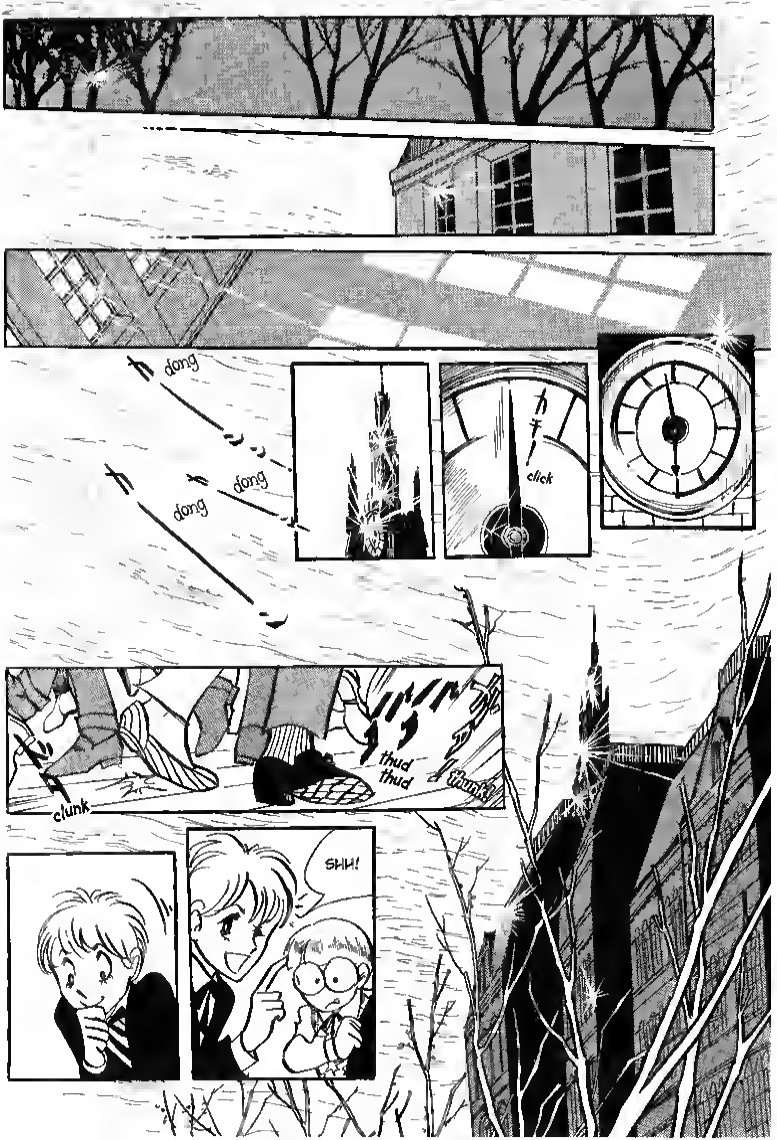
click
click
SOMEONE'S STILL TRYING TO TALK TO YOU!
AND I FEEL SLEEPY!
YOU FIBBER! WHY WON'T YOU AT LEAST HEAR WHAT I HAVE TO SAY?
YOU'RE NOT SAYING ANYTHING WORTH HEARING
WELL THEN, WHAT ABOUT THAT LETTER?
YOU THINK EVERYTHING'S FINE? THEN WHY NOT TELL YOUR FAMILY ALL ABOUT THOMAS'S SUICIDE AND THE ARRIVAL OF THE NEW STUDENT? BUT YOU LEFT THOSE EVENTS OUT ON PURPOSE!
grab
RETURN MY LETTER!
!
A DEEP SCAR SHAPED LIKE A LEERING GRIN!
gasp

DOES IT—
...SHOCK YOU? IT'S AN OLD SCAR
I... FELL AND HIT MYSELF AGAINST A DESK.
GEEZ!
I'M GOING TO BED NOW!
IT'S NO BIG DEAL TO ME! THERE'S NOTHING UNUSUAL ABOUT THAT SCAR!
IF YOU'RE GOING TO IGNORE SOMEONE'S EFFORTS TO GIVE YOU FRIENDLY ADVICE...
...THEN STICK TO DOING WHAT-EVER YOU WANT!
HAH! I JUST HOPE YOU'RE NOT THAT MUCH OF A FOOL!
GOOD NIGHT!
click

ANYWAY IT'S NOT AS IF OSCAR WASN'T HORRIFIED
HE QUICKLY HID HIS TRUE FEELINGS WHEN HE NOTICED MY ALARM.
THERE'S NOTHING UNUSUAL ABOUT THAT SCAR!
DON'T OTHERS DO SO AS WELL?
AT SCHOOL, I CUT AND BRUISE MYSELF ON A DAILY BASIS.
THERE WAS A LAD WHO PRETENDED HE WAS TARZAN AND BROKE THREE BONES IN HIS FEET WHILE SWINGING FROM A BEECH TREE
I EXPLAINED IT EASILY ENOUGH
I FELL... AND HIT A DESK
IT'S NOT AS IF THIS IS THE FIRST TIME!
A LIAR? IS THAT WHAT YOU ARE?
YOU'RE MAKING UP LIES, JULIUSMOLE BAYHAN!
A BRAND THAT WILL NEVER FADE! A MARK TO BE CARRIED FOR ETERNITY!
OHH, IT'S THE SPELL OF A DEMON'S CONTRACT SEALED IN BLOOD...
THIS SCAR
THIS SCAR

"IS THAT THE REASON WHY "
ARGH
AHH...
AH...
"IS THAT THE REASON WHY YOU LOVE NO ONE?"
AH... AH!
AH
THOMAS WERNER, GET AWAY FROM ME! GO AWAY! DON'T COME NEAR ME!
I COULD'VE CONTINUED LIVING WITH THIS SECRET AS LONG AS NO ONE ELSE KNEW WHAT I TRULY AM!


EACH WEEK I WRITE A LETTER TO MY FAMILY SENDING THEM MY LOVE... AND THE SCHOOL HAS PLACED A GREAT DEAL OF FAITH IN ME BY APPOINTING ME HEAD PREFECT.
I PRETEND TO CONVERSE WITH GOD AND SING HYMNS TO HIM... BUT IT'S NO USE, FOR I'LL NEVER HAVE ANGEL'S WINGS.
BUT I'LL NEVER TRUST ANYONE AND I'LL NEVER LOVE ANYONE
THAT'S WHY IT'S BEST THAT NO ONE EVER LOVES ME
I'LL ACT AS IF...
I'LL GET A GRIP ON MYSELF
I'M FINE
AND NO ONE EVER TRUSTS ME
I'M SORRY
AS LONG AS I WEAR THIS MASK OF INNOCENCE I CAN KEEP GOING
KEEP GOING
I'M SORRY I KNOW ABOUT IT ALL
MOST OF IT
THAT'S THE REASON WHY I'VE BEEN PLACED IN THE SAME ROOM AS YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE.
THE SCAR LEFT BY A BURN AND WHEN AND HOW IT WAS INFLICTED ON YOU
I'LL WATCH OVER YOU


dong
dong
dong
click
thud
thud
thunk
clunk
SHH!

OH, ERIC DEAR!
IT'S MORNING, ERIC! RISE AND SHINE!
RISE AND SHINE, ERIC! IT'S MORNING! YOU'RE SLEEPING IN!
HEH HEH
MM...
I'LL GET UP IF YOU KISS ME, MARIE.
Wash!
jolt
YOU SAID YOU'D GET UP IF YOU WERE KISSED BY MARIE!
click
!!
slam

dong
dong
dong
DOESN'T THIS SCHOOL HAVE ANY HOT WATER?
I NEED HOT WATER!
splish
yawn
dong
COULD IT BE TIME FOR MASS?
WHAT'S THE TIME? THE BELL IS SO NOISY!
GOOD GRIEF!
flip
stare
NEVER MIND. I DON'T LOOK FILTHY
splash
FORGET IT

NOTE The students are singing the German national anthem (*Das Deutschlandlied*

I THINK I CAME IN THROUGH THE WRONG DOOR...
HELLO! HOW DO YOU DO? SO YOU'RE THE EAGER NEW STUDENT!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT SING ALONG! YOU CAN USE THIS BOOK HERE
Glückes
Fortunes
Bluh
Flourish
ブリュー
snicker snicker
クククッ
Einigkeit und Recht und
Unity and justice and~
in
イン
WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING ABOUT?
BACCHUS THE ROMAN GOD OF WINE!
RELAX! WE JUST THINK YOU DO A GREAT JOB OF LIVING UP TO YOUR NAME!
ARE YOU A FINAL YEAR STUDENT?
INDEED I AM CALL ME BACCHUS
YOU SEE, THIS IS WHERE THE FINAL YEARS SIT
IT'S NOT EASY FOR A SOPRANO LIKE YOU TO BLEND IN THE BASS SECTION
YOU SOUND OUT OF PLACE, NEW BOY! YOUR VOICE HASN'T BROKEN YET, HAS IT?
Glückes
Fortunes
blühe
flourish

I'VE TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU! WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH ME TO THE NEXT TEA PARTY?
A TEA PARTY?
I'LL COME AND FETCH YOU WHEN THE TIME COMES. IT'S ON SATURDAY AT FOUR P.M.
ERIC IS OVER THERE!
HE'S WITH BACCHUS
HE MUST'VE ENTERED THE DOOR MEANT FOR THE FINAL YEAR STUDENTS
WELL?
WHAT WAS BACCHUS TALKING TO YOU FOR?

GOOD MORNING!
GOOD MORNING!
GOOD MORNING!
GOOD MORNING!
Smirk
IN THEIR UNIFORMS THEY REMIND ME OF MONKEYS!
WHY ARE THEY ALL HANGING OUT OF THE WINDOW?
chuckle
STOP PICKING ON HIM, HERBERT!
HIS FACE IS LIKE AN OPEN BOOK!
WITH A GRIN LIKE THAT, OUR LITTLE FRIEND MUST BE PLEASED WITH HIMSELF!
DID MARIE GIVE YOU A BIG KISS THIS MORNING?

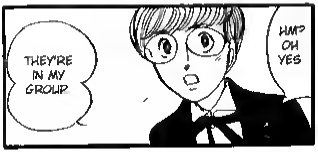
ERIC IS NOTHING MORE THAN A NEW STUDENT WHO ARRIVED YESTERDAY
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU ALL?!
THOMAS AND I ARE NOT—
MMF!
SHH! WE KNOW THAT ALREADY!
STAY OVER HERE, ERIC!
HAVE YOU STARTED TO FEEL GUILTY ABOUT THOMAS?
WELL, PARDON ME, HEAD PREFECT! BUT WHY ARE YOU TREATING HIM DIFFERENTLY COMPARED TO YESTERDAY?
BECAUSE I SUSPECT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO HAS TROUBLE THINKING OF THE NEW BOY AS A UNIQUE INDIVIDUAL.
I'M NOT IN THE MOOD TO ARGUE OVER THIS HERBERT.
WE, AS JULIUSMOLE'S LOYAL DEFENDERS, ARE TO DO EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER TO PROTECT YOU FROM HERBERT'S SARCASM!
THEN THE DECISION IS FINAL!

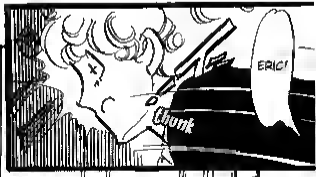
I MAY SOUND PARANOID AND INSECURE. BUT I'VE SEEN THE WAY THAT JULI FELLOW TWISTS THE WORDS OF OTHERS! HE'S SNEAKY!
HE'S MADE A BIG MISTAKE!
bang
DON'T WORSEN YOUR OWN MISTAKE, HERBERT!
YOU'RE MISTAKEN! ANYWAY, I COULD NEVER STAND THE SIGHT OF YOU FROM THE START, JULISMOLE BAYHAN!
THE OTHERS WANT TO INCLUDE ERIC IN THE GROUP DON'T THEY?
HM?
BAC-CHUS!
HEY, OSCAR?
whomp
shhhh

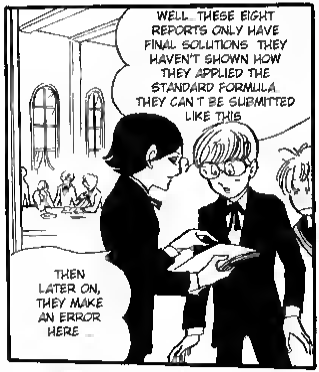
DON'T DISTURB ME. I'M TRYING TO TAKE A NAP. I DIDN'T GET ANY SLEEP LAST NIGHT
WHY DO YOU HAVE THE DAY OFF? THIS IS MY HIDEOUT, REMEMBER? DO YOU WANT A CIGARETTE?
Here?
I'VE INVITED THE NEW BOY TO THE NEXT ONE
OH THE TEA PARTY
I DON'T FIND IT THAT AMUSING
I DON'T SEE MUCH OF YOU YOU OUGHT TO SHOW UP AT THE TEA PARTY ONCE IN A WHILE
HM?
ALTHOUGH HE'S GOT A SHORT FUSE, HE'S A GOOD BOY, ISN'T HE?
IS HE GOOD?
MM HMM.
ERIC?
SO YOU'RE HAVING TEA WITH BACCHUS?
THAT'S THE QUESTION
I'M SURE HE IS

I GUESS YOUR CURLS CAUGHT HIS EYE. THEY MAKE YOU LOOK CUTE!
SO I HAVE TO BE NOMINATED?
IS IT GREAT?
IT'S THE FIRST TIME SOMEONE IN OUR CLASS HAS BEEN INVITED!
WAH! ISN'T THAT GREAT!
AM I CUTE?
IF HE NOMINATES YOU, THEN I THINK YOU'LL BE CALLED UP VERY SOON!
rush
ANTE?
UMM... WHY DON'T YOU GO AND READ THE NEWSPAPERS IN THE HEADMASTER'S OFFICE? YOU NEED TO BE PREPARED FOR YOUR NEXT CLASS
NOW THE VACANT SPOT IS TAKEN BY THAT FOOL ANTE
THOMAS WERNER WAS A REGULAR GUEST AT THE TEA PARTY WHEN HE WAS ALIVE.
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DO WHAT?
BUT I THOUGHT OSCAR'S THE ONLY STUDENT WHO CAN READ THE NEWSPAPERS IN THE HEADMASTER'S OFFICE, RIGHT?

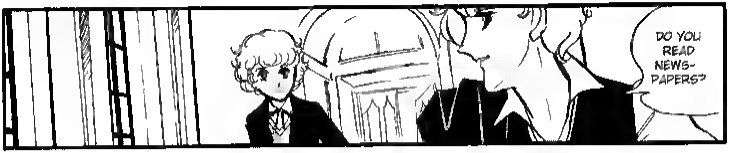
BUT NO ONE SAID THAT YOU WERE! ERIC, WAIT!
I'LL REFUSE ANY INVITATION TO BE A STAND-IN FOR FRAULEIN THOMAS!
later
ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE THE PLACE OF FOOLISH ANTE?
NO, I WON'T !
clink
WHO ARE THEY CALLING CUTE? I'M NOT SOME KIND OF GIRL!
I'M SAYING YOUR FACE IS A LOT LIKE HIS THAT'S ALL
DO YOU RASCALS CALL YOURSELF JULIUSMOLE'S DEFENDERS? WHY, I THINK HE'S PUT YOU UP TO THIS—
HE REALLY IS!
HE'S HARD-WORKING AND FAIR AND HONEST
JULI'S AN EXCELLENT HEAD PREFECT
ERIC— YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG
DON'T TOUCH ME!
I'M NOT YOUR PLAY-THING!
Ack!
NOTHING GOOD CAN COME OUT OF SPENDING TIME WITH THEM, ERIC! THEY'RE FOOLISH UNCOUTH GLUTTONS!
YOU KEEP OUT OF THIS! IF WE HAD TO LOOK LIKE YOU TO BE CONSIDERED CUTE THEN WE'D ALL RATHER BE UGLY!
BUT THE FACT IS JULI DESPISED THOMAS
DON'T TELL ME HE'S BLIND TO ERIC'S LIKENESS TO THOMAS.


THEY'RE IN MY GROUP
HM? OH YES


ERIC!
Chunk


WELL THESE EIGHT REPORTS ONLY HAVE FINAL SOLUTIONS THEY HAVEN'T SHOWN HOW THEY APPLIED THE STANDARD FORMULA THEY CAN'T BE SUBMITTED LIKE THIS
THEN LATER ON, THEY MAKE AN ERROR HERE...

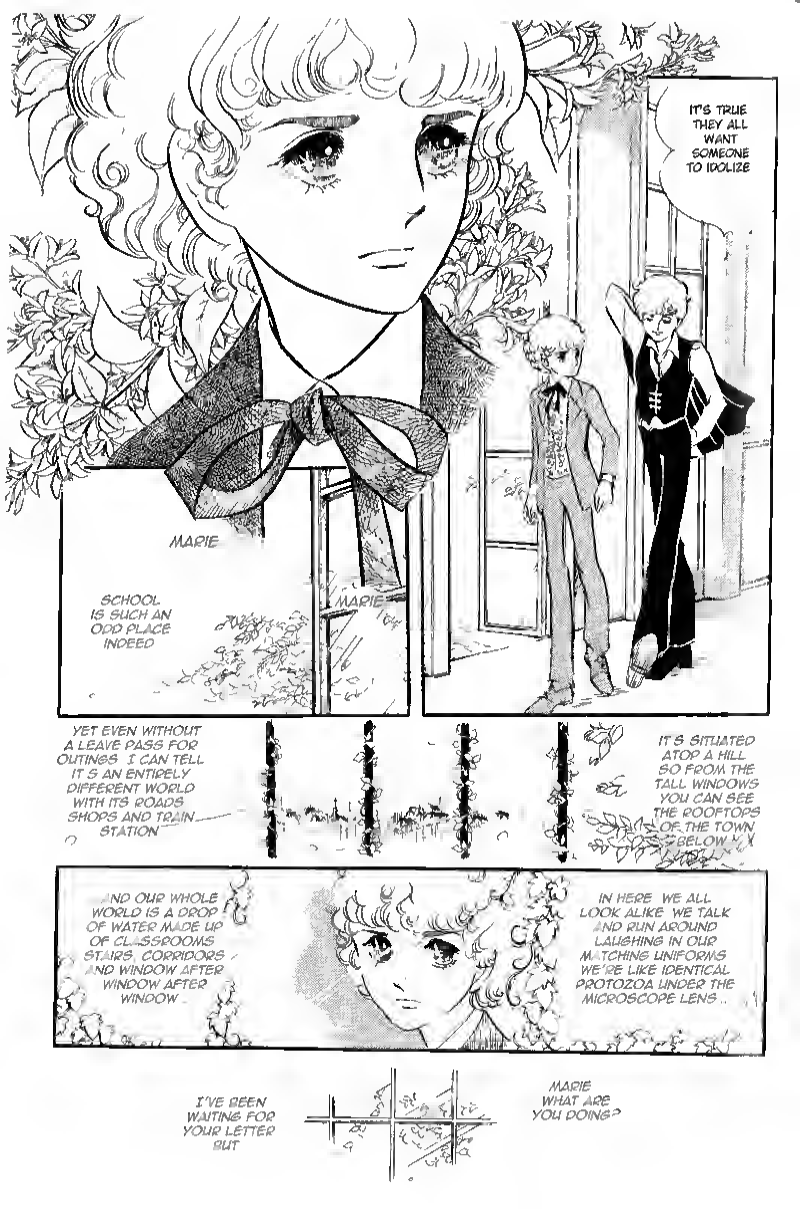
EXCUSE ME
HER-BERT?
.....
DID YOU INSTRUCT THESE EIGHT STUDENTS ON HOW TO WRITE UP THEIR SCIENCE REPORTS?


DO YOU READ NEWS-PAPERS?

THAT'S A LIE

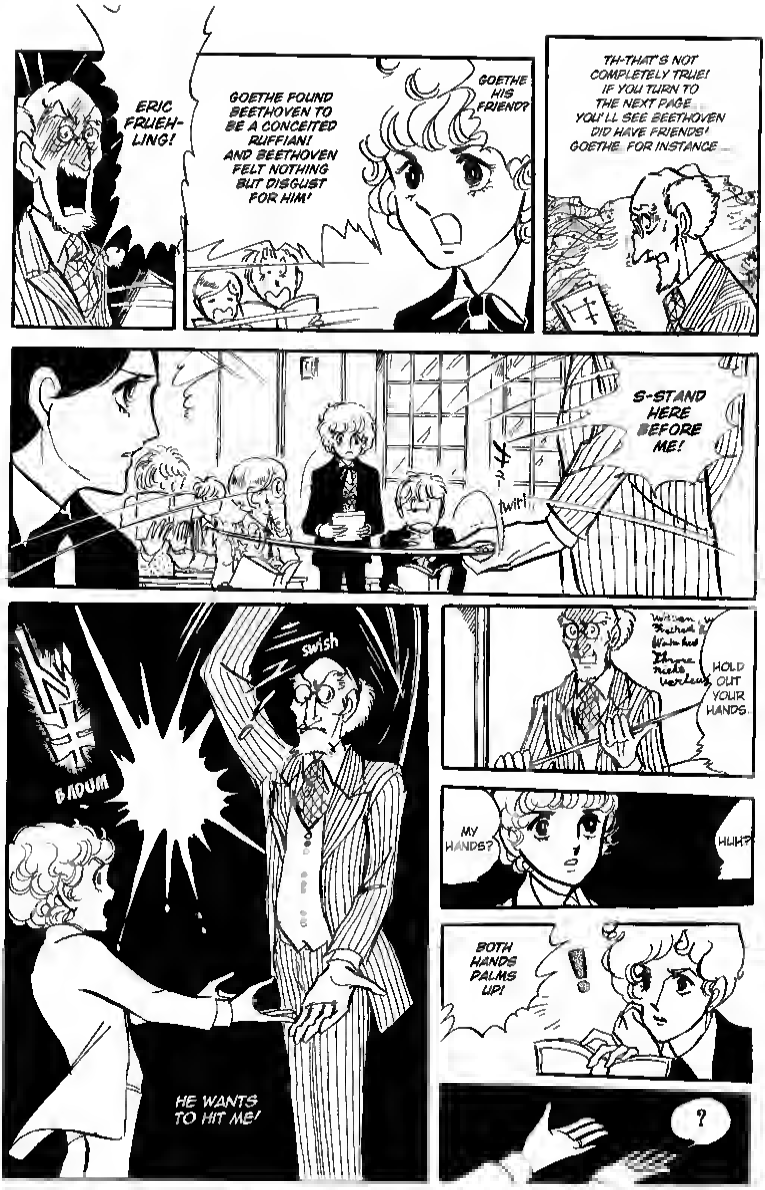
DON'T SAY THAT. THAT RABBLE SEEM TO LIKE YOU

WHY SHOULD I? PLUS I'VE GOT NO TIME FOR THAT RABBLE! THEY USE OTHERS AS PAWNS IN THEIR DISPUTES!


IT'S TRUE THEY ALL WANT SOMEONE TO IDOLIZE
MARIE
SCHOOL IS SUCH AN ODD PLACE INDEED
MARIE
YET EVEN WITHOUT A LEAVE PASS FOR OUTINGS I CAN TELL IT'S AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT WORLD WITH ITS ROADS SHOPS AND TRAIN STATION
IT'S SITUATED ATOP A HILL SO FROM THE TALL WINDOWS YOU CAN SEE THE ROOFTOPS OF THE TOWN BELOW
AND OUR WHOLE WORLD IS A DROP OF WATER MADE UP OF CLASSROOMS STAIRS CORRIDORS AND WINDOW AFTER WINDOW AFTER WINDOW
IN HERE WE ALL LOOK ALIKE WE TALK AND RUN AROUND LAUGHING IN OUR MATCHING UNIFORMS WE'RE LIKE IDENTICAL PROTOZOA UNDER THE MICROSCOPE LENS
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOUR LETTER BUT
MARIE WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

HEILIGENSTADT TESTAMENT a famous letter found after Beethoven s death Addressed to his brothers it reveals the composer's despair over his worsening deafness his rejection of suicide as an opt on and his struggle to continue compos ng mus c in self-imposed isolat on

WHY DID BEETHOVEN WRITE THE HEILIGENSTADT TESTAMENT? WELL?
I'VE CALLED YOUR NAME THREE TIMES!
ERIC FRUEHLING!
ERIC FRUEH-LING!
WERE YOU LISTENING AT ALL, NEW BOY?
HOW EASILY YOUR MIND WANDERS DURING AFTERNOON CLASS!
HE WROTE IT BECAUSE HE FELT HE WAS ABOUT TO DIE
HIS TESTA-MENT
ALL THE ACCOLADES WENT TO HIS HEAD! THEN HIS DEAFNESS AND MYOPIA LEFT HIM A WRECK!
REJECTED BY THE WOMAN HE LOVED, HE WENT MAD WITH GRIEF THEN HIS FRIENDS DESERTED HIM, HE BEGAN DRINKING TOO MUCH, AND THE ALCOHOL DAMAGED HIS STOMACH!
WHY IS THIS TEACHER SO RUDE?
IF HE WERE MY TUTOR I'D FIRE HIM!
IS THAT YOUR ANSWER? YOU'VE GOT YOUR BOOK OPEN AT THE WRONG PAGE!
YOU DARE SAY THAT... ABOUT THE GREAT BEETHOVEN


ERIC FRUEH-LING!
GOETHE FOUND BEETHOVEN TO BE A CONCEITED RUFFIAN! AND BEETHOVEN FELT NOTHING BUT DISGUST FOR HIM!
GOETHE HIS FRIEND?
TH-THAT'S NOT COMPLETELY TRUE! IF YOU TURN TO THE NEXT PAGE YOU'LL SEE BEETHOVEN DID HAVE FRIENDS! GOETHE FOR INSTANCE...
S-STAND HERE BEFORE ME!
twirl
HOLD OUT YOUR HANDS.
MY HANDS?
HUH?
BOTH HANDS PALMS UP!
?
swish
BADUM
HE WANTS TO HIT ME!

swish
snatch
ERIC FRUEH—
JUL!!
PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR SEAT! STUDENTS DO NOT DEFY THE AUTHORITY OF A TEACHER!
GO BACK TO YOUR SEAT—
TURN TO THE NEXT PAGE!
AH
YES
MY APOLOGIES FOR THIS, HERR BUSCH—

I WILL BE QUIET.
YOU SHOULD APOLOGIZE TO HERR BUSCH! TAKE THE TIME TO THINK IT OVER!
YOU'RE INCORRIGIBLE, ERIC!
IS THAT THE REASON JULI STOPPED ME IN TIME?
BUT AT HOME I COULD'VE FIRED HIM!
I HAD NO IDEA THAT TURNING AROUND AND HITTING A TEACHER WAS SUCH A SERIOUS OFFENSE
I MIGHT BE WRONG ABOUT THE HEAD PREFECT THAT'S WHAT HIS DEFENDERS SEEM TO THINK
BUT... WHAT SHOULD I SAY? HOW DO I GO ABOUT IT?
BUT MAYBE HE REALLY IS A NICE LAD
IT'S TRUE THAT I DON'T LIKE HIM THAT MUCH
I KNOW! I'LL FIND HIM NOW AND OFFER AN APOLOGY

Nom
JULI?
.....
ERR
ARE YOU HURT?
IT'S NOTHING, REALLY I JUST NEED A DRINK
J-JUST THEN I

DANKE
WAS MY TIE UNDONE?
AH!
flinch
IN TIME, I'LL KILL YOU
REALLY, I WILL NEXT TIME I'LL MAKE SURE...
...YOU VANISH BEFORE ME FOR GOOD
twang

DASH
I'LL KILL YOU
NEXT TIME I'LL MAKE SURE YOU VANISH
HE'S CRAZY!
WHAT IS HE? WRINGING HIS NECK WON'T WORK! PHYSICAL FORCE WON'T BE ENOUGH!
IS THIS THE MODEL STUDENT AND HEAD PREFECT WHO LOOKS AFTER HIS FELLOW STUDENTS?
YOU TOLD ME THAT WAS WHY YOU DIED
YOU SAID YOU LOVED ME THOMAS
THE FIRST TIME I SAW THAT GAZE
IT WAS THE SAME LOOK HE GAVE ME IN THE CEMETERY
SO NOW YOU WANT ME TO TAKE THE BLAME FOR YOUR SUICIDE
NEVER! WHY MUST I CARRY THE BURDEN OF YOUR DEATH FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE?

I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES IN ORDER TO SURVIVE.
SO THAT'S WHY I MUST ERADICATE THIS DOPPELGANGER OF YOU.
FROM THE VERY BEGINNING...
...THE NAME THOMAS WERNER KEPT CROPPING UP TIME AND TIME AGAIN WHEREVER I WENT
...THINGS HAVE BEEN WEIRD WHEN I FIRST ARRIVED AT THIS SCHOOL...
I'M SURE...
...THIS BOY WHO LOOKED SO MUCH LIKE ME?
...BUT I DON'T KNOW THE SLIGHTEST THING ABOUT HIM WHAT WAS HE LIKE...
AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN ABLE TO LEARN FROM OTHERS
THOUGH I WAS OFTEN INVITED TO THE TEA PARTY...
WHAT IN THE WORLD COULD IT BE?
...THERE WAS SOMETHING GOING ON BETWEEN JULI AND THOMAS

BUT I'M JUST GOING TO THE TEA PARTY.
JUST FOR SATURDAY AFTERNOON, RIGHT? YOU'LL BE ABLE TO WALK AROUND THE TOWN!
ERIC! WERE YOU GIVEN LEAVE TO GO OUT?
Wah!
HELLO, ERIC FRUEHLING!
HEY! YOU MUSTN'T DISMISS THIS CHANCE TO LOOK AROUND!
I'VE COME TO PICK YOU UP, SO YOU BETTER BE QUICK.
gish
gish
A COUNTRY TOWN LIKE THAT DOESN'T INTEREST ME
I WONDER IF YOU'D PREFER TO GO ON A TRIP INTO TOWN WITH ME
clack
OH, NEVER MIND!
YOU'LL BE GIDDY WITH EXCITEMENT WHEN YOU MEET EVERYONE!
kachik

WELCOME, HONORED GUEST!
I'LL SORT THROUGH THEM AND....
THERE'S THIRTY TITLES HERE.
kachik
カチャッ
WHO'S THERE?

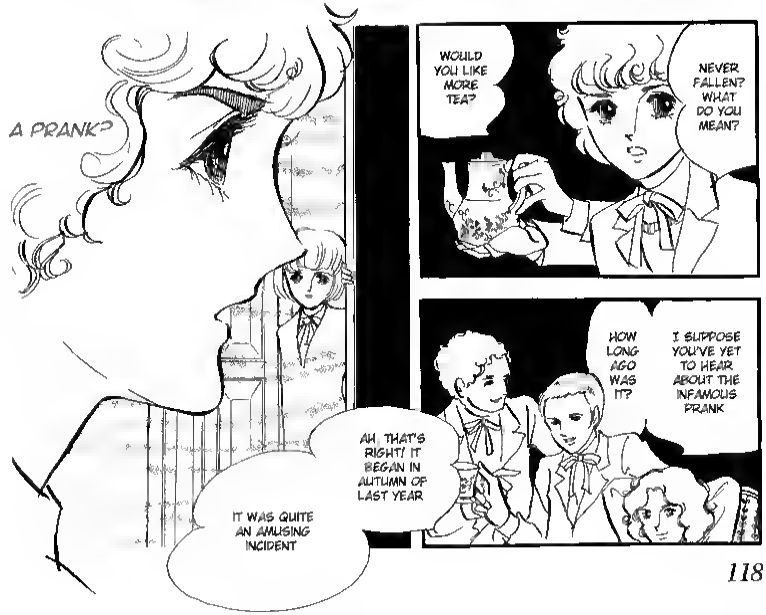
WHAT ABOUT THAT BOOK?
I'M ON LIBRARY DUTY RIGHT NOW, AND YOU DON'T HAVE PERMISSION TO
DOES THIS LIBRARY BELONG TO YOU?
HEY, YOU THINK I'M A THIEF?
STRICTLY PROHIBITED, I KNOW. WE WEREN'T DOING ANYTHING. I WAS JUST ABOUT TO LEAVE.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN HERE? ENTRY TO THE LIBRARY ON WEEKENDS IS——
IT'S JOSE A THIRD-YEAR SENIOR THE BOY WITH HIM IS IN THE YEAR BELOW ME
SLAP
DON'T ORDER ME ABOUT, TEACHER'S PET!

NO, IT'S NOTHING
IT WAS NOTHING, NOTHING AT ALL EXCUSE ME FOR COMING IN HERE WITHOUT PERMISSION, JULLISMOLE.
WHY WERE YOU MEETING HIM HERE, LUDWIG?
HM?
WHAT'S WRONG?
SORRY, I'M LATE
IT'S NOTHING
IT'S NOTHING
IT'S NOTHING
HOW ABOUT SOME MILK?
WE TAKE EACH DAY AS IT COMES... EVERY ONE OF US.
KEEP SAYING THAT FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE
FOR THAT'S HOW LONG A PROMISE SHOULD BE KEPT

DIFFERENT MEN SEEM TO COME AND GO
SO AT HOME IT'S JUST YOU AND YOUR MOTHER, IS IT?
ON THE BANK OF THE RHEIN RIVER, RIGHT?
YOU'RE FROM KOELN? THAT'S A NICE TOWN!
AHH!
UM... SO YOU...
AH... WELL... THAT MUST MEAN YOUR MOTHER IS A VERY WELL-LIKED FIGURE IN SOCIETY
MOST OF THE TIME
OOPS!
DON'T TOUCH ME!
IS THAT WHY YOU WENT TO BOARDING SCHOOL? SO YOUR MOTHER COULD HAVE MORE PRIVACY WITH HER LATEST LOVER?
glare
EXCUSE ME, [illegible] CURLS ARE SO PRETTY.
WELL, HOW ABOUT SOME SUGAR?
THIS LE BEBE CAN HOLD HIS OWN AGAINST US!
HE'S RATHER GOOD AT THROWING HIS WEIGHT AROUND!
heh heh
OUR LITTLE FRIEND IS TOO FEISTY.

FOR THIS WEEK, IT CAME DOWN TO YOURSELF AND ANOTHER BOY WHO WAS WELL-BEHAVED. THAT'S HOW WE DETERMINE WHOM TO INVITE.
TYPICALLY STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO THE TEA PARTY AS A REWARD FOR THEIR GOOD WORK.
HE WAS, FROM THE FIRST WEEK HE STARTED AT THIS SCHOOL.
I HEARD THOMAS WERNER WAS A REGULAR GUEST AT YOUR TEA PARTY. IS THAT TRUE?
YES, THAT'S HOW WE CHOSE YOU THIS WEEK.
WHEN NO ONE SUITABLE COULD BE FOUND, WE ALWAYS WENT BACK TO INVITING THOMAS.
HE REALLY WAS A SWEET BOY.
"THEY ALL WANT SOMEONE TO IDOLIZE."
"THAT RABBLE SEEM TO LIKE YOU."
WAS JULI ON BAD TERMS WITH THOMAS?
IS THAT THE REASON HE'S NEVER COME TO YOUR TEA PARTY?
WHEN WE MADE OUR DECISION, HE WAS ALREADY PROVING HIMSELF TO BE FAR TOO STUFFY AND DULL.
THAT'S RIGHT.
I'M AFRAID HE'S TOO BUSY SORTING BOOKS ON A SATURDAY AFTERNOON.
NO. NOT HIM! DURING HIS WHOLE TIME AT THIS SCHOOL, HE'S FAILED TO MAKE MUCH OF AN IMPRESSION ON US.
THEN WHAT ABOUT SOMEONE LIKE JULIUSMOLE WHO ALWAYS UPHOLDS THE SCHOOL RULES?

HA HA HA
IS STUFFY JULI TAKING AN INTEREST IN YOU? THEN CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY!
OH MY! OH MY!
HE'S NEVER FALLEN FOR ANYONE, NOT EVEN THOMAS WERNER!
I DON'T CARE FOR HIM! HE PICKED A FIGHT WITH ME!
NO, YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG!
THAT'S WHY!
WHY ARE YOU ASKING SO MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT JULLISMOLE? DO YOU CARE ABOUT HIM?
AFTER ALL, LOOK AT HIS JET BLACK HAIR!
WELL, HE IS A LOVELY BOY, ISN'T HE? I'M SURE HE HAS SOME MIXED MEDITERRANEAN ANCESTRY.


A PRANK?
WOULD YOU LIKE MORE TEA?
NEVER FALLEN? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I SUPPOSE YOU'VE YET TO HEAR ABOUT THE INFAMOUS PRANK
HOW LONG AGO WAS IT?
AH, THAT'S RIGHT! IT BEGAN IN AUTUMN OF LAST YEAR
IT WAS QUITE AN AMUSING INCIDENT

ONE DAY THOMAS MADE A WAGER WITH HIS FRIEND ANTE
ANTE?
HE WANTED TO SET UP AN AUDACIOUS CONFRONTATION
...TO CAPTURE THE HEART OF THE IRREPROACHABLE JULIUSMOLE!
SO THOMAS WAS REJECTED NOW WHAT WERE THE WORDS THAT JULI USED?
THE DETAILS OF THE BET WERE LEAKED
THINGS WENT WRONG
BUT JULI WASN'T TAKEN IN.
"I'D NEVER WANT TO KNOW SOMEONE LIKE YOU."
JULI SAID THIS TO THOMAS IN FRONT OF AN ENTIRE CLASS FULL OF STUDENTS.
THOMAS DIDN'T UTTER A SINGLE WORD IN HIS OWN DEFENSE...
HONESTLY, NOT ONE WORD

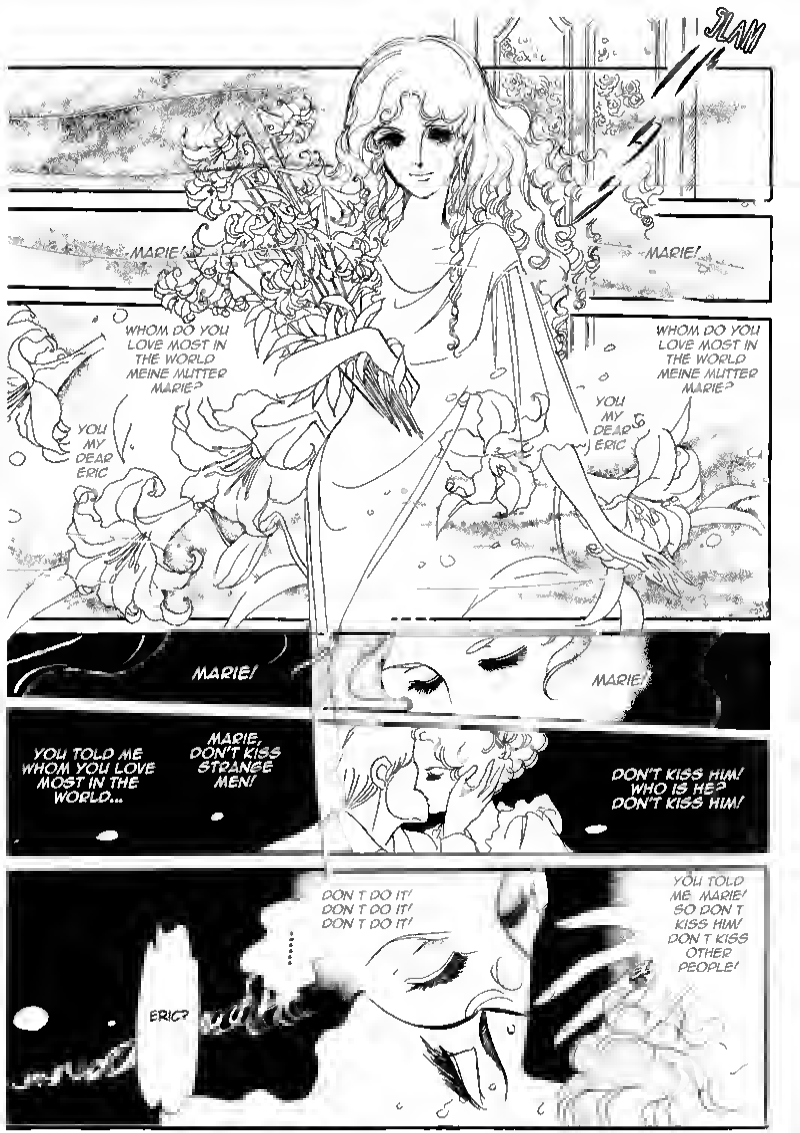
YOU'RE NOTHING LIKE HIM IN CHARACTER, BUT THAT'S NOT TO SAY YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR OWN CHARMS!
WHAT THEN? WHY, NOTHING IMPORTANT! WE DID OUR BEST TO COMFORT POOR THOMAS!
WHAT THEN?
WHAT A HEARTLESS REPLY
SLAP
!!
IT'S RUDE TO PUSH AWAY A PARTNER. I SUGGEST THAT YOU RELAX AND BE A GOOD BOY FOR US
OH! HE TURNS BRIGHT RED FROM A SINGLE KISS! HE'S MOST ASSERTIVE FOR A CALLOW YOUTH!
HE HAS THE FACE OF A BOY WHO'S ONLY BEEN KISSED BY HIS MAMA!
chuckle
DON'T GO NEAR MY FACE! YOU'LL MAKE ME DIRTY!
WHA
YOU'RE IN NEED OF PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE LE BEBE!
Yank
WHAT DID I DO WRONG?
WHAT WAS THAT FOR?

YOU FOOL! STOP SUCH SILLY BEHAVIOR! HE'S OUR GUEST!
LET ME SHOW YOU WHAT NEW LOVE FEELS LIKE. IN RETURN, I'LL SMOTHER YOUR FACE WITH MY KISSES. FROM NOW ON, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO LIVE WITHOUT ME.
CHARLES!
ERIC?
DON'T... TOUCH ME...
ERIC!!

QUICKLY SUMMON THE HEAD PREFECT FROM THE LIBRARY, CHARLES! YOU COULD BE EXPELLED FOR CAUSING THIS!
gulp
ERIC!
HEY WE BETTER NOT MOVE HIM!
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
DON'T MOVE HIS HEAD. GENTLY CARRY HIM TO THE SOFA
HOW'S HIS PULSE?
TWICE AS FAST AS NORMAL!
shame shame
JULIUSMOLE!
WHOW
ERIC HAS WHAT?

THE SECOND FLOOR WING OF JAKOB HALL, WHERE WE HOLD OUR TEA PARTY.
clatter
WHERE IS HE?
flip
I-I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT IT HAPPENED SO SUDDENLY! ANYWAY, HE...
HE FAINTED?
OH NO... THAT ROOM!
JAKOB HALL, THE SECOND FLOOR WING!
JILLIG-MOLE?
wham
THERE'S NO NEED TO CREATE A BIG FUSS OVER THIS
OSCAR? WHAT FOR? IT'S ALL RIGHT FOR YOU TO COME UP THERE!
WHERE'S OSCAR?

HEY JULI! FOR TONIGHT'S DINNER... WHAT'S GOING ON?
ERIC HAS FAINTED HE'S ON THE SECOND FLOOR WING OF JAKOB HALL. DO YOU MIND GOING OVER THERE FOR ME?
WHO FAINTED? ERIC?
WHAT ON EARTH DID YOU FELLOWS—
OH NO!
AHH, SURE I'LL GO!
PLUS I STILL HAVE A STANDING INVITATION TO THE TEA PARTY FROM BACCHUS!
BY THE WAY, MAKE SURE YOU GO TO THE DINING HALL. I THINK YOU'RE ON DINNER DUTY
Slam!
WAS IT THE SECOND FLOOR WING OF JAKOB HALL?
thud thud
AHA! THE ROOM OF EVIL!
whatna
EVEN FOR JULI...
I GUESS EVEN FOR JULI CONSCIOUSLY ENTERING THAT ROOM A SECOND TIME WAS TOO DAUNTING A TASK

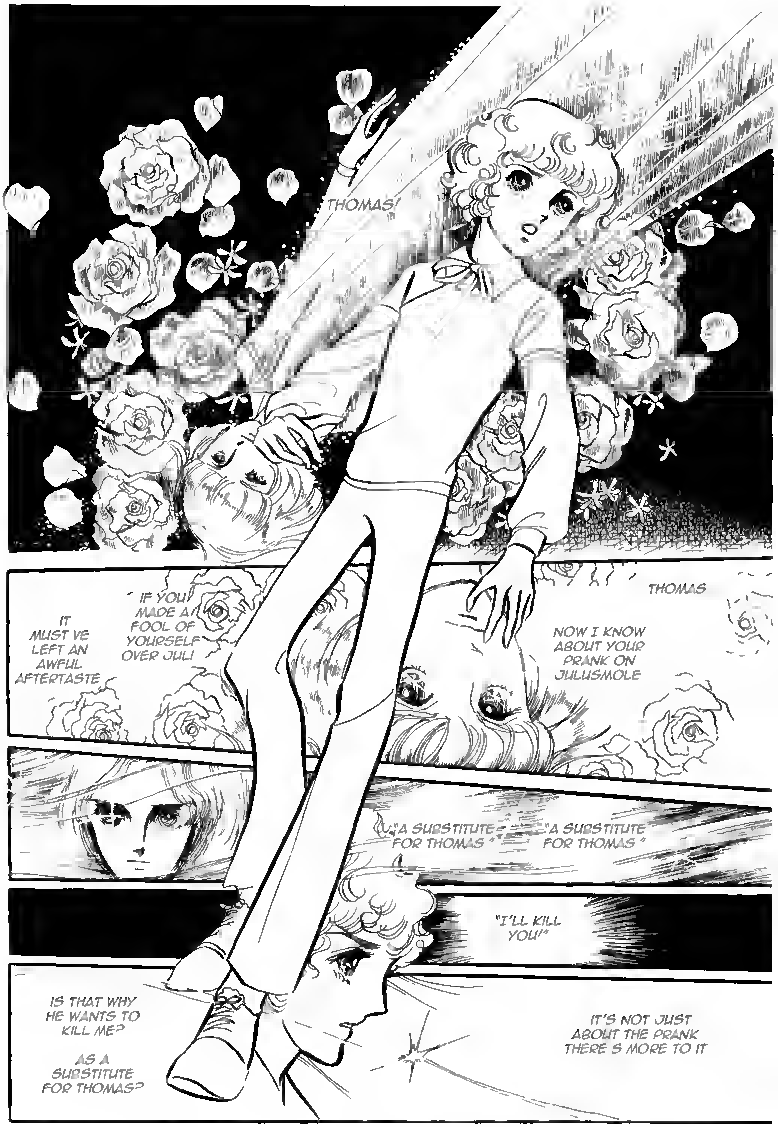

MARIE!
WHOM DO YOU LOVE MOST IN THE WORLD MEINE MUTTER MARIE?
YOU MY DEAR ERIC
MARIE!
WHOM DO YOU LOVE MOST IN THE WORLD MEINE MUTTER MARIE?
YOU MY DEAR ERIC
MARIE!
MARIE!
YOU TOLD ME WHOM YOU LOVE MOST IN THE WORLD...
MARIE, DON'T KISS STRANGE MEN!
DON'T KISS HIM! WHO IS HE? DON'T KISS HIM!
ERIC?
DON T DO IT! DON T DO IT! DON T DO IT!
YOU TOLD ME, MARIE! SO DON T KISS HIM! DON T KISS OTHER PEOPLE!

THERE NOW NOW ARE YOU FEELING?
DON'T DO IT
ERIC FRUEHLING I TRULY FEEL
I'M GOING BACK!
YOU'RE WELCOME HERE ANY TIME
WE WON'T BE SO DISCOURTEOUS NEXT TIME SO PLEASE DO CONSIDER COMING AGAIN
THAT OUR CONDUCT TOWARDS YOU HAS BEEN REPREHENSIBLE.
You scoundrels are mean!

YOU'RE STILL NOT SAYING MUCH, HUH? FOR A KID WHO'S MORE USED TO PLAY-GROUND GAMES, IT'S A BIG SHOCK.
WERE YOU UPSET BY THEIR KISSES?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, ERIC?
hiccup
WHY ARE YOU CRYING?
THERE'S BEEN NO LETTER...
MARIE? WHY ARE YOU CRYING, MARIE?
I WON'T MARIE!
BUT YOU'LL LEAVE ME WHEN YOU GROW UP
I WON'T! I WON'T!
BECAUSE YOU SEE, SOME DAY YOU'LL LEAVE ME FOR GOOD AS WELL
I KEEP WAITING... B-BUT...
MARIE HASN'T SENT ME A LETTER...
BUT THE TRUTH ABOUT MY FATHER IS THAT HE DOESN'T LIVE NEARBY...
F-FIVE YEARS? THAT LONG?
AND JUST HOW MANY DAYS HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU ARRIVED HERE? IN MY CASE, I HAVEN'T RECEIVED A SINGLE LETTER FROM MY FATHER FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS!

BUT IS HE REALLY A FATHER TO YOU?
STOP THINKING THAT EVERYONE IS AS SPOILT AS YOU, LE BEBE!
DON'T YOU FEEL LONELY?
HE'S BEEN MY REAL FATHER FOR AS LONG AS I'VE HAD A FATHER.
I'LL STILL LOVE HIM THROUGH THICK AND THIN, LE BEBE
LE BEBE...
COULD YOUR FATHER BE DEAD?
MOST LIKELY, HUH?
.....

I SEE
THANKS FOR CHECK-ING ON HIM.
SEEMS THAT ERIC WAS SUFFERING FROM A MINOR BOUT OF ANEMIA
clink
BUT I'M CONCERNED ABOUT HIM.
HOW COULD HE FAINT FROM A MERE KISS?
ARE YOU WELL NOW?
DID YOU FAINT AT THE TEA PARTY? YOU'RE NOT FEELING SICK, ARE YOU?
DID OSCAR GO OVER THERE IN PERSON TO BRING YOU BACK?
REALLY? DID OSCAR DO THAT? THAT'S NICE OF HIM!
HEY! DON'T STAND IN THE DOORWAY BLOCKING MY WAY!
WHATEVER HAPPENED COULDN'T HAVE BEEN THAT BAD COULD IT ERIC?
BACCHUS EVEN TOLD ERIC HE COULD COME AGAIN ANYTIME!
PLEASE GO FIRST, ANTE. YOU MUST BE FEELING LEFT OUT BECAUSE YOU WEREN'T INVITED TO THE TEA PARTY
WHAT, HIM? HOW COULD THE OLDER STUDENTS THINK HE'S A NICE BOY? HE'S SIMPLY A SUBSTITUTE FOR THOMAS!
NO WAY!


THOMAS!
THOMAS
NOW I KNOW ABOUT YOUR PRANK ON JULUSMOLE
IF YOU MADE A FOOL OF YOURSELF OVER JULI
IT MUST VE LEFT AN AWFUL AFTERTASTE
"A SUBSTITUTE FOR THOMAS"
"A SUBSTITUTE FOR THOMAS"
"I'LL KILL YOU!"
IS THAT WHY HE WANTS TO KILL ME?
AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR THOMAS?
IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE PRANK THERE'S MORE TO IT

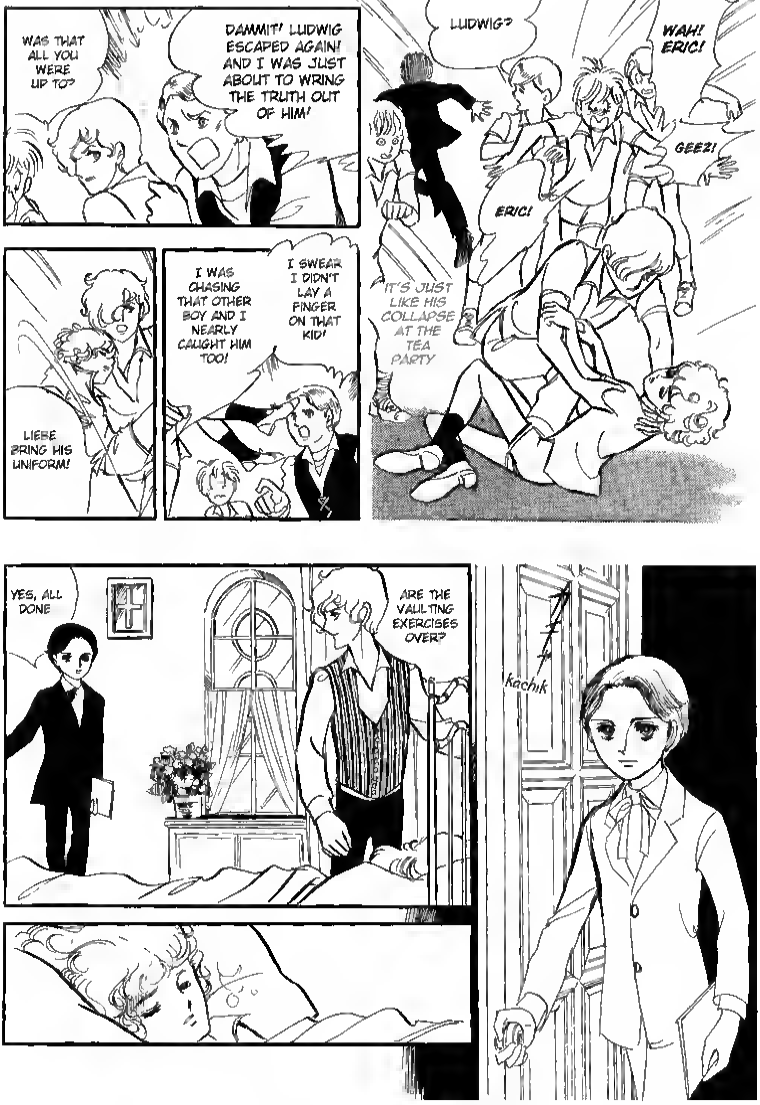
CRASH
YOU FAILED THE LANDING, ADAM. DO IT AGAIN LATER
WAH!
OW!
NEXT!
THAT HURT!
FOOL! YOU'LL BE THE WORST IN THE CLASS IF YOU VAULT WITH YOUR GLASSES ON!
THEY'RE LOOSE!
SLAM!
HUH?
gulp
thump

UH HUH...
WHAT FOR?
SO HOW DOES IT FEEL TO COME FIRST IN THE CLASS? GREAT, RIGHT? I WAS WORRYING FOR NOTHING...
clap clap
PERFECT, ERIC! YOU'RE THE KING OF THE GYM VAULT!
ERIC HAS PASSED. YOU'RE NEXT, ALOIS!
WELL, YOU FAINTED BEFORE... AND I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT HAVE A BAD HEART OR SOMETHING...
!
WHEN YOU'VE DONE A PASSABLE VAULT, YOU CAN GO BACK TO THE PRIVATE STUDY ROOM AND DO TODAY'S HOMEWORK
GO ON! YOU CAN'T VAULT WELL SO YOU CAN PRACTICE THERE!
HOW CAN YOU KEEP YOUR COLLAR BUTTONED UP, JULIUSMOLE? DON'T YOU FEEL HOT AND SWEATY?
.....
パーン! slap
YOUR TURN, AL! COME ON, GET MOVING!
BESIDES, YOU ALL EXPOSE YOUR NECKS BECAUSE IT'S THE LATEST FASHION...
I'M JUST STANDING HERE SUPERVISING YOU ALL.

THIS TIME I DIDN'T HAVE THAT FAINTING FIT!
A BAD HEART? BUT I DON'T HAVE A BAD HEART!
YOU KEEP THINKING THE WORST ABOUT ME OSCAR
kachik
HOLD IT! YOU CAN'T ESCAPE FROM ME THIS TIME! YOU'VE BEEN CAUGHT IN THE ACT!
SO YOU'VE SEEN HIM TOO, NEW BOY!
crash
wham
?
WHO ARE YOU? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

NO, DON'T!
Grab
Smash
I SAW WHAT YOU WERE UP TO! SHOW ME YOUR HAND!
NOTHING?
I, I DID NOTHING...
CAUGHT IN THE ACT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO HIM? YOU'RE TOO ROUGH!
clink
AND I'M SURE THERE'S MORE WHERE THAT CAME FROM. RIGHT, LUDWIG?
I-I DON'T KNOW!
HE TOOK IT FROM UNDER YOUR VERY NOSE THAT'S YOUR PEN, ISN'T IT?

LET HIM GO
HE TOLD YOU HE DOESN'T KNOW...
LET HIM GO
I'M SURE YOU'VE STASHED AWAY MORE THAN FOUR WATCHES! AT LEAST TELL ME WHERE THEY ARE!
TELL ME NOW! OUT WITH IT!
WHAT? DON'T TELL ME YOU DON'T KNOW!
Garweh
ARGH! DON'T
I DON'T KNOW, JOSE!
WHY, WHAT'S GOING ON?
OH, JOSE! WHAT BUSINESS DOES A THIRD YEAR LIKE YOU HAVE IN THE FIRST YEAR LOCKER ROOM?
flop
HEY, HAVEN'T YOU CHANGED INTO YOUR UNIFORM YET?
thud thud
ERIC!

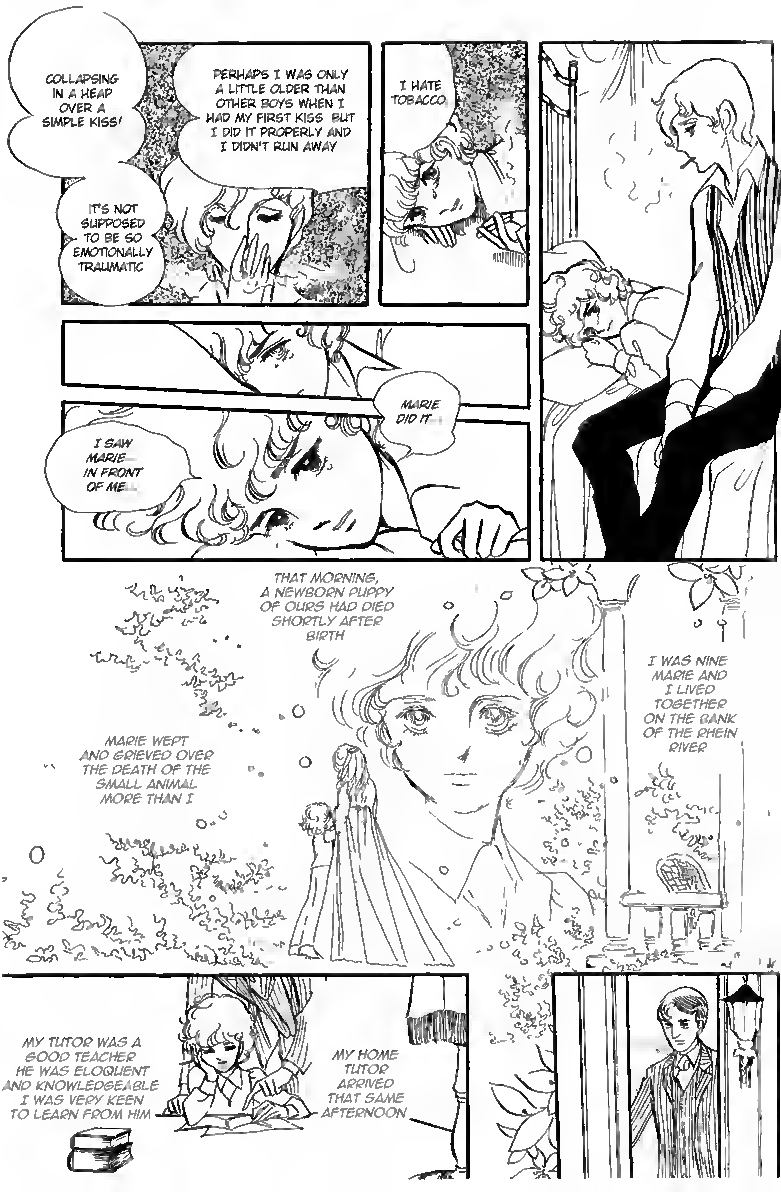

WAS THAT ALL YOU WERE UP TO?
DAMMIT! LUDWIG ESCAPED AGAIN! AND I WAS JUST ABOUT TO WRING THE TRUTH OUT OF HIM!
LUDWIG?
WAH! ERIC!
GEEZ!
ERIC!
IT'S JUST LIKE HIS COLLAPSE AT THE TEA PARTY
LIEBE BRING HIS UNIFORM!
I WAS CHASING THAT OTHER BOY AND I NEARLY CAUGHT HIM TOO!
I SWEAR I DIDN'T LAY A FINGER ON THAT KID!
YES, ALL DONE
ARE THE VAULTING EXERCISES OVER?
kachik

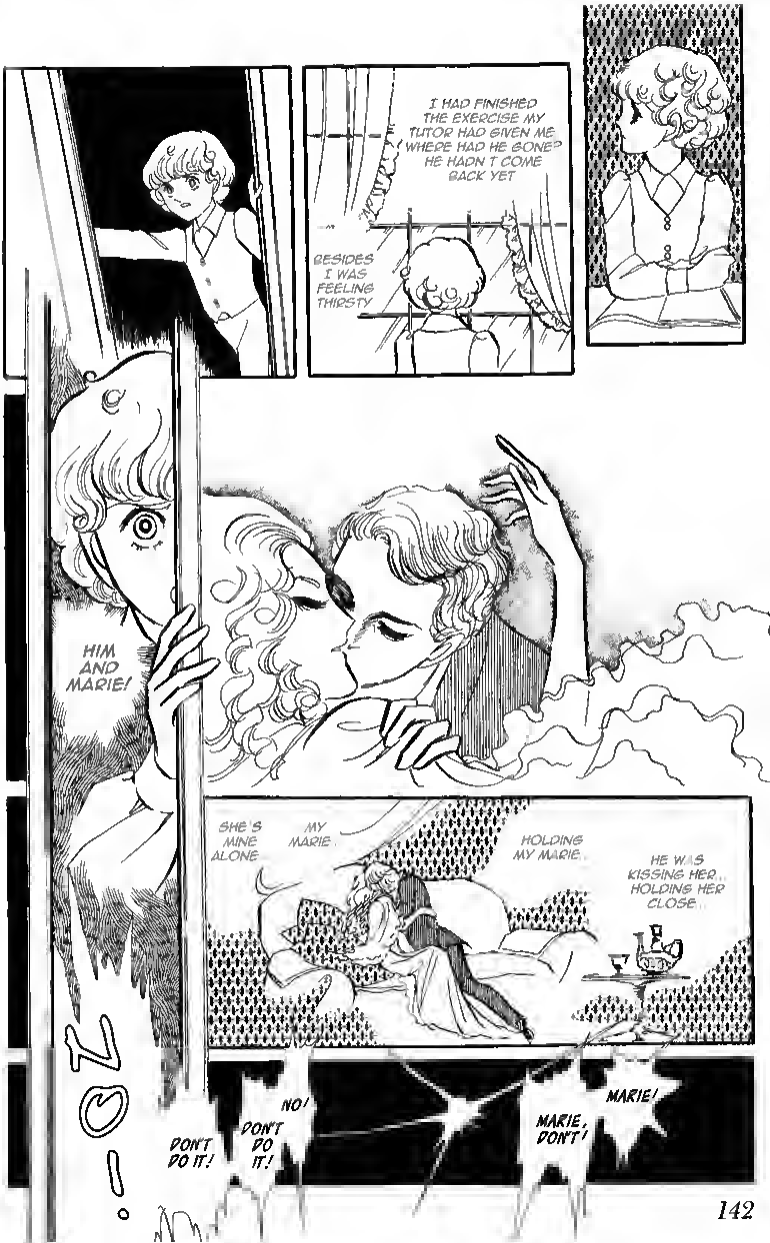
I'LL WATCH OVER HIM
I HAVE TO SUPERVISE THE PRIVATE STUDY ROOM SO I CAN'T STAY HERE
ERIC?
A NEUROSIS?
IF THESE ATTACKS OCCUR MORE FREQUENTLY HE'LL NEED TO BE EXAMINED AT A SPECIALIZED HOSPITAL
NO, THAT'S NOT IT
IS HE STILL ANEMIC?
THEN I'LL LEAVE HIM WITH YOU.
THIS LAD APPEARS TO SUFFER FROM A TYPE OF NEUROSIS IN OTHER WORDS A MINOR CASE OF HYSTERIA
WHAT DO YOU MEAN HERR ARTUR?
ISN'T HE LUCKY TO BE WITH OSCAR!
HE'S QUITE PHYSICALLY WEAK FOR A STRONG-WILLED BOY, ISN'T HE?
RETURN TO YOUR SEATS!
OSCAR IS WITH HIM.
HE'S ANEMIC IT WAS A HOT DAY TODAY, AND HE FELT FAINT AFTER COMPLETING HIS VAULT
HOW IS ERIC?
HEAD PREFECT JULI!
HOW DID HE COME DOWN WITH THIS?
A NEUROSIS... IN OTHER WORDS AN ILLNESS OF THE MIND

JULUS--
MOLE,
I LOVE
YOU
JULUS--
MOLE,
I LOVE
YOU

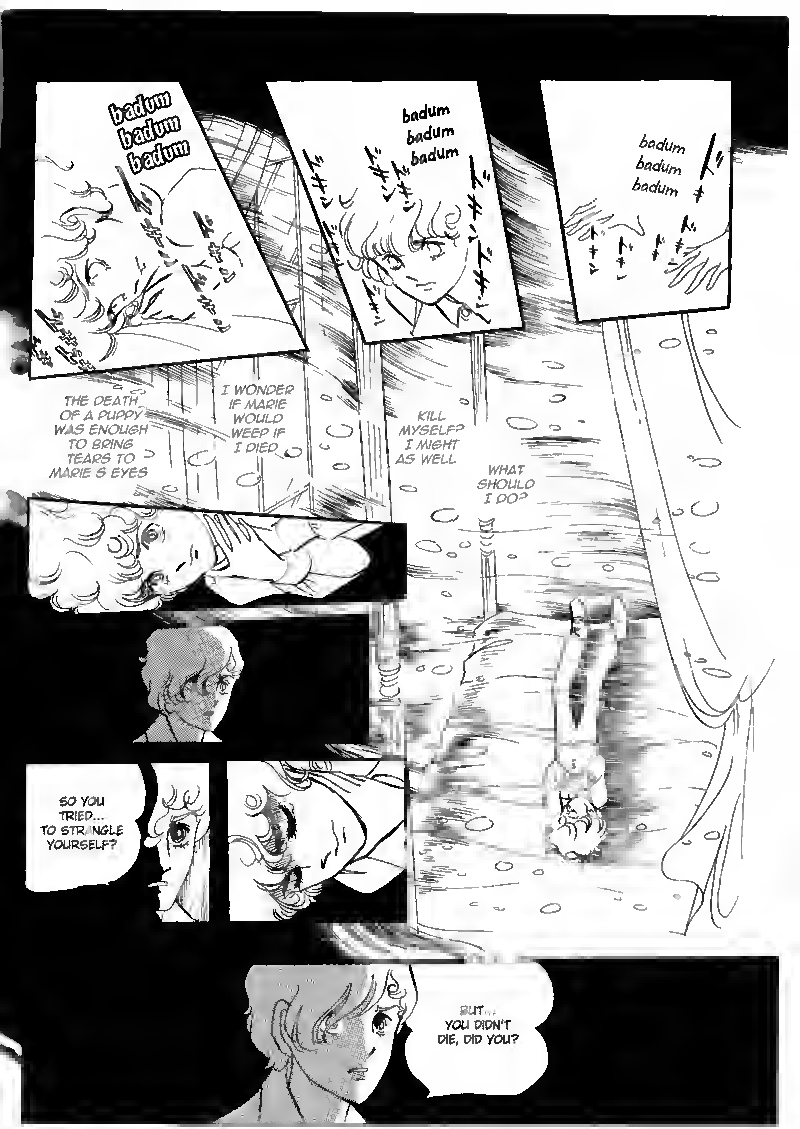
LUDWIG WAS THE ONE BEING STRANGLED BY JOSE...
WHAT ON EARTH WERE YOU THINKING?
YOU'RE AN ODD BOY.
NOT YOU, SILLY!
BUT I WITNESSED THAT AWFUL SCENE...
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT LUDWIG? THEFT IS HIS HOBBY.
HH... IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR DINNER. DID YOU SLEEP WELL, ERIC?
WHERE AM I?
THE SCHOOL INFIRMARY!
THERE'S SEVERAL STUDENTS LIKE THAT HERE.
UMM... THAT YOUNGER STUDENT... WHY DOES HE STEAL?
I SUPPOSE YOU CAN GET UP. IF YOU HURRY, YOU'LL BE IN TIME FOR THE SOUP.
IN THIS SCHOOL, THERE IS NOTHING THAT DOESN'T REACH MY EARS.
HERE, WEAR THIS.
ERIC?
I JUST WANTED TO DO UP YOUR TOP BUTTON...
SLAP
.....!

DID A LETTER ARRIVE FROM YOUR BELOVED MARIE, LE BEBE?
DO YOU NOW DISLIKE BEING KISSED BY HER?
NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
EXCUSE ME FOR ASKING
WHAT IS THIS? LET ME GO!
COME ON, WHAT SHOULD I DO?
thunk
whing!
I-I'M NOT ILL! I WISH TO BE LEFT ALONE WITHOUT BEING BOTHERED BY PEOPLE LIKE YOU...
SHE'S THE CAUSE OF YOUR ILLNESS, ISN'T SHE?
HAVEN'T I?
I'VE HIT THE NAIL ON THE HEAD,
flick
WANT ONE?

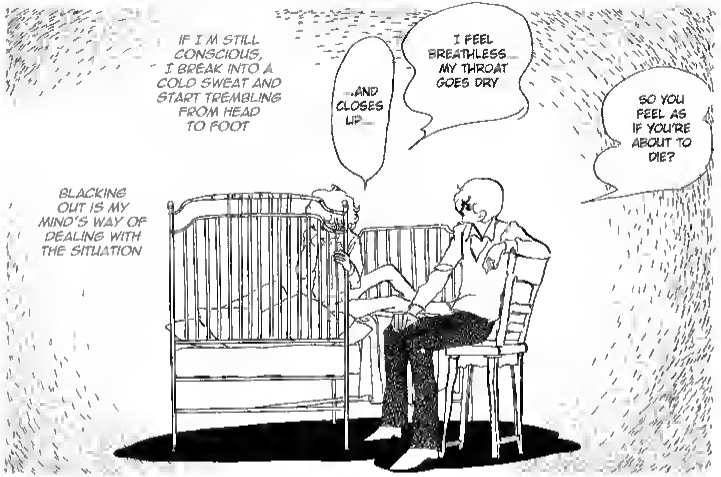

COLLAPSING IN A HEAP OVER A SIMPLE KISS!
PERHAPS I WAS ONLY A LITTLE OLDER THAN OTHER BOYS WHEN I HAD MY FIRST KISS BUT I DID IT PROPERLY AND I DIDN'T RUN AWAY
IT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO BE SO EMOTIONALLY TRAUMATIC
I HATE TOBACCO
I SAW MARIE IN FRONT OF ME...
MARIE DID IT
THAT MORNING, A NEWBORN PUPPY OF OURS HAD DIED SHORTLY AFTER BIRTH
MARIE WEPT AND GRIEVED OVER THE DEATH OF THE SMALL ANIMAL MORE THAN I
I WAS NINE MARIE AND I LIVED TOGETHER ON THE BANK OF THE RHEIN RIVER
MY TUTOR WAS A GOOD TEACHER HE WAS ELOQUENT AND KNOWLEDGEABLE I WAS VERY KEEN TO LEARN FROM HIM
MY HOME TUTOR ARRIVED THAT SAME AFTERNOON


I HAD FINISHED THE EXERCISE MY TUTOR HAD GIVEN ME. WHERE HAD HE GONE? HE HADN'T COME BACK YET
BESIDES, I WAS FEELING THIRSTY
HIM AND MARIE!
SHE'S MINE ALONE
MY MARIE
HOLDING MY MARIE
HE WAS KISSING HER... HOLDING HER CLOSE...
NO!
DON'T DO IT!
DON'T DO IT!
MARIE, DON'T!
MARIE!

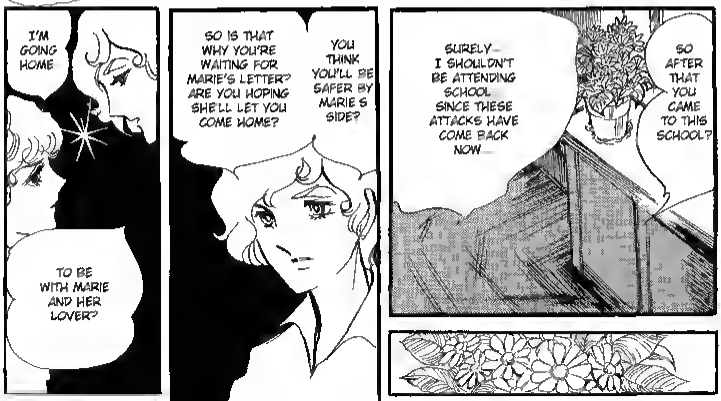
BUT YOU TOLD ME YOU LOVED ME...
MARIE!
YOU SAID I WAS THE ONE YOU LOVED MOST IN THE WORLD!
ARGH! MARIE!
YOU BETRAYED ME!
YOU BETRAYED ME!


badum badum badum
badum badum badum
badum badum badum
THE DEATH OF A PUPPY WAS ENOUGH TO BRING TEARS TO MARIE'S EYES
I WONDER IF MARIE WOULD WEEP IF I DIED
KILL MYSELF? I MIGHT AS WELL
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
SO YOU TRIED... TO STRANGLE YOURSELF?
BUT... YOU DIDN'T DIE, DID YOU?

I WAS CERTAIN I'D BE ABLE TO DIE.
AT THE VERY LEAST, I HAD TO MAKE MYSELF DEEPLY UNCONSCIOUS.
WHAT ABOUT MARIE?
THE CURTAINS NEAR MY BED WERE FLUTTERING THEY LOOKED AS IF THEY'D BEEN TORN...
BUT WHEN I LOST CONSCIOUSNESS, MY HANDS EASED THEIR GRIP BY THE TIME I OPENED MY EYES, IT WAS ALREADY THE START OF A NEW DAY
BUT FROM THAT DAY ON... WHENEVER THE MEMORIES OF THAT INCIDENT COME FLOODING BACK...
MARIE HAD NO IDEA
ONCE AGAIN I FEEL AS IF I'M SUFFOCATING AND ABOUT TO DIE...


IF I'M STILL CONSCIOUS, I BREAK INTO A COLD SWEAT AND START TREMBLING FROM HEAD TO FOOT
I FEEL BREATHLESS— MY THROAT GOES DRY
—AND CLOSES UP—
SO YOU FEEL AS IF YOU'RE ABOUT TO DIE?
BLACKING OUT IS MY MIND'S WAY OF DEALING WITH THE SITUATION

AFTER THAT, IT SETTLED DOWN BUT OCCASIONALLY THE CHOKING SENSATION WOULD RETURN
MARIE TOOK ME AFTER I'D BEEN HAVING THESE ATTACKS FOR ABOUT ONE OR TWO YEARS—
DID YOU GO TO A HOSPITAL?


I'M GOING HOME
TO BE WITH MARIE AND HER LOVER?
SO IS THAT WHY YOU'RE WAITING FOR MARIE'S LETTER? ARE YOU HOPING SHE'LL LET YOU COME HOME?
YOU THINK YOU'LL BE SAFER BY MARIE'S SIDE?
SURELY— I SHOULDN'T BE ATTENDING SCHOOL SINCE THESE ATTACKS HAVE COME BACK NOW—
SO AFTER THAT YOU CAME TO THIS SCHOOL?

SHE'D BEG ME FOR FORGIVENESS. THEN BRING A NEW MAN HOME THE NEXT DAY...
EVERY TIME! EVERY SINGLE TIME! SHE BRINGS STRANGE MEN HOME! SHE MAKES LOVERS OUT OF THEM ALL!
THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS EACH AND EVERY TIME!
SHE'LL SOON TIRE OF HIM!
NO! IT WON'T LAST!
NO, SHE WON'T! MARIE'S THERE WAITING FOR ME...
ONE DAY YOU TOO WILL FALL IN LOVE WITH A SWEET GIRL OF YOUR OWN. MARIE ALREADY HAS COMPANY AT HOME...
WHY NOT LEAVE HER BE?
OSCAR!
THAT'LL FIX YOUR BIZARRE ATTACKS FOR SURE!
I'VE GOT AN IDEA! WE'LL GO OUT NEXT SATURDAY!
I'LL GET PERMISSION FOR US TO VISIT THE LOCAL TOWN FOR A GIRL HUNT!
LE BEBE?
THEN WHAT WILL YOU DO NEXT YEAR? AND THE YEAR AFTER THAT? HOW ABOUT A DECADE FROM NOW...
YOU'LL TRULY BE A BABY FOREVER, AND I'LL FEEL SORRY FOR POOR MARIE.
IF YOU DON'T LEARN TO BE INDEPENDENT, YOU'LL BE STUCK IN THIS VICIOUS CYCLE. YOU'VE GOT TO UNDERSTAND THAT.

rustle
WELL, A GIRL HUNT DOES SOUND LIKE A GOOD IDEA.
rustle
TO ENSURE ANOTHER ATTACK IS AVOIDED!
WEAR A RAINCOAT OVER YOUR BLOUSE. HAVEN'T YOU GOT A COAT?
WAIT, I'LL BORROW ONE FOR YOU
SO THAT'S HOW OSCAR ARRANGED FOR THE TWO OF US TO GO OUT NEXT SATURDAY
BUT MUST WE GO AFTER GIRLS? I'M NOT THAT INTERESTED IN THEM..
SURE BUT ISN'T IT TOO SMALL FOR YOU?
CAN I BORROW THIS?
YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO WEAR A CAPE YOU MUST PUT ON THE SCHLOTTERBETZ COAT
EVEN ON OUTINGS, THERE'S A SCHOOL RULE ABOUT BRINGING RAINCOATS

Slap
UH HUH
I'LL BE BACK WITH OUR LEAVE PASSES
HERE!
SEE YOU AT THE GATE!
UH HUH
I THINK HE'S CARRYING AROUND A BIT OF AN OEDIPUS COMPLEX!
IT'S FOR ERIC, NOT ME
clack
JULUS MOLE IS THIS JULI'S?
Julius mole
SO HE OFTEN LENDS HIS THINGS HUH?
THE COAT MAKES US ALL LOOK THE SAME AS EACH OTHER BUT I DON'T HAVE ONE OF MY OWN

JULI!
JULI!
.....
YES WITH OSCAR
ARE YOU GOING OUT?
WHEN-EVER
WHEN WILL YOU KILL ME?
YOU TOLD ME BEFORE THAT YOU'D KILL ME. RIGHT?
MURDER!
REALLY? BUT IF YOU CARRY OUT YOUR PLAN, THEN YOU'LL BE COMMITTING MURDER!

HE DIDN'T EVEN LIFT AN EYEBROW! HE SIMPLY TOOK IT IN HIS STRIDE!
HE REPLIED SO EASILY... AS IF HE WERE READING LINES FROM THE SCRIPT OF SOME PLAY
ERIC!
I KNOW.
ERIC, YOUR LEAVE PASS!
WHAT ABOUT THOMAS WERNER? WAS HE KILLED BY JULI TOO?
OUR CURFEW IS SIX P.M. WHAT'S WRONG? COME ON, LET'S GO!
OH...
UH HUH.

FAR FROM THE BUSTLING CITIES THERE ARE VINEYARDS AND OATFIELDS. HEIDELBERG IS TO THE NORTH, KARLSRUHE TO THE SOUTH.
TOURISTS FLOCK HERE LURED BY ITS SCENIC BEAUTY
ATOP THAT HILL IS THE CRUMBLING RUINS OF A CASTLE BUILT BY THE ROMANS
IT'S THE ONLY YOUTH HOSTEL.
YOUTH HOSTEL ?
NORDBADEN!
I FIND THIS PART OF WEST DEUTSCHLAND TO BE A VERY PICTURESQUE REGION.
MARIE IS FOND OF THE LAKE REGIONS WE'VE VISITED ALL OF THE ONES IN NORTHERN EUROPE.
I HAVE
INEXPENSIVE LODGINGS FOR SIGHTSEERS HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ON A SIGHTSEEING TRIP? THEY'RE GREAT FUN!
YOU'RE THE SON OF A RICH MAN, ALL RIGHT?
.....
THERE'S OSCAR FROM SCHLOTTER-BETZ!
KYAA!
LOOK, LOOK! WHAT AN INCREDIBLY CUTE BOY!
OSCAR! I WONDER HOW MANY WEEKS IT'S BEEN SINCE THE LAST SATURDAY WE SAW HIM!
THE LANDS ALONG THE RHEIN RIVER HAVE A RICH HISTORY

WHAT'S THE MATTER? SAY HELLO TO THEM!
THEY'RE GIRLS FROM THE LOCAL BUSINESS SCHOOL. I RUN INTO THEM NOW AND THEN
HI!
HI!
HELLO
HELLO!
PFFT
KYAA!
tee hee tee hee
HIYA!
Um...
Err...
Err...
YOU ARE SUCH A
THEY'RE BEING RUDE TO ME!
DAS CAFÉ
I FORGOT TO BRING MONEY
NOW WHAT
DO YOU LIKE SWEETS?
HERE'S A CAFE. THERE'S FOUR OF THEM IN THIS TOWN
GOOD GRIEF! WELL, NEVER MIND IT'S ONLY YOUR FIRST TIME

TWO OF JOHANNA SPRITZ'S PIES!
WELL — YOU'VE LOST YOUR FATHER JUST LIKE ME DO YOU HAVE A LAWYER LOOKING AFTER YOUR FINANCES?
AIEE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
SO DO YOU HAVE YOUR OWN FORTUNE?
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE? THE PIES HERE ARE DELICIOUS
IT'LL BE MY TREAT BECAUSE I INVITED YOU OUT
creak
NOT NOW, NOT EVER! I DEPEND ON AN INTEREST-FREE LOAN PROVIDED BY HEADMASTER REISER!
I DON'T HAVE A SINGLE PENNY TO MY NAME!
LOOK, I'VE GOT A COUPON!
UNDER-STOOD?
OSCAR!
HEY, THAT'S ERIC!
HI EVERY-ONE!
HEY!
YES, I NOTICED HIM SOME TIME AGO
SEE THAT BOY?
HE'S THE SPITTING IMAGE OF HERR WERNER'S SON, THE BOY WHO PASSED AWAY IN THAT ACCIDENT!
EXCEPT HIS EYES AND HAIR ARE A DIFFERENT COLOR

THERE'S THE CUTE GIRL WHO ALWAYS COMES AT THIS TIME!
I WONDER IF THEY'RE WAITING FOR GIRLS WHILE THEY SIP THEIR TEA
YES, I'M SHOWING ERIC THE TOWN AND THE LOCAL GIRLS!
WE COULD'VE ALL GONE OUT TOGETHER!
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, OSCAR? ARE YOU TAKING ERIC OUT?
GIRLS !!
SHE'S SO ADORABLE!
I STILL DON'T KNOW HER NAME... BUT SHE ALWAYS WEARS A LIGHT BLUE RIBBON.
STUDENTS WEAR RED TIES ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON
AHA! IS THIS A POPULAR MEETING PLACE?
IT'S NOT USE! HE'S A LOST CAUSE!
WELL, FIRSTLY YOU HAVE TO FALL IN LOVE WITH THEM!
BUT HOW IS THAT INTERESTING?
GIVE THEM A KISS!
WELL! ISN'T IT FUN TO CHAT WITH THEM AND...
WHAT TO DO?
Hehe!
WHAT ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO DO WHEN YOU MEET A GIRL?
ERIC!
WHAT WAS THAT? I NEVER...
WHOA THERE, LADS!
LE BEBE PREFERS HIDING IN THE SHADOW OF HIS MAMA'S SKIRT!
Slam

YES, IT APPEARS HE'S TAKEN QUITE A LIKING TO ERIC, HASN'T HE?
WELL, GOOD FOR HIM!
I SEE! OSCAR MUST BE SHOWING HIM AROUND TODAY, HUH?
OUR LITTLE FRIEND WOULD'VE BEEN TOO DISTRACTING HE'S CUTER THAN A GIRL!
BUT HOW COULD WE HAVE WATCHED GIRLS WITH ERIC AROUND, REALLY?
SCHLOTTERBETZ STUDENTS DON'T START FIGHTS IN CAFES.
SEE YOU LATER.
THERE'S ENOUGH RED TIE HERE FOR THE ENTIRE TOWN TO STRANGLE YOU WITH! YOU RISK RUINING THE REPUTATION OF ALL SCHLOTTERBETZ STUDENTS WITH YOUR CONDUCT! THINK BEFORE YOU ACT!
IT'S TRUE! BEFORE OSCAR WAS SNUGGLING UP WITH JULI!
HE'S A FAST WORKER!
WHAT'S WITH ANTE? WHAT DOES HE MEAN BY THOSE WORDS?
?
FORGET THAT! HE'S PROBABLY MAKING IT UP LOOK AT THAT CUTE GIRL!
HUH? IS OSCAR FICKLE OR WHAT?
THIS TIME HE'S WITH ERIC!
WHAT?
BUT I SAW THEM!
NOW THERE'S SOME TRUTH IN THAT!
HOHOHO! JULI? YOU MEAN JULIUSMOLE, OUR HEAD PREFECT? THE PERSON THAT WOULDN'T EVEN FALL FOR THOMAS? HAHAHA!

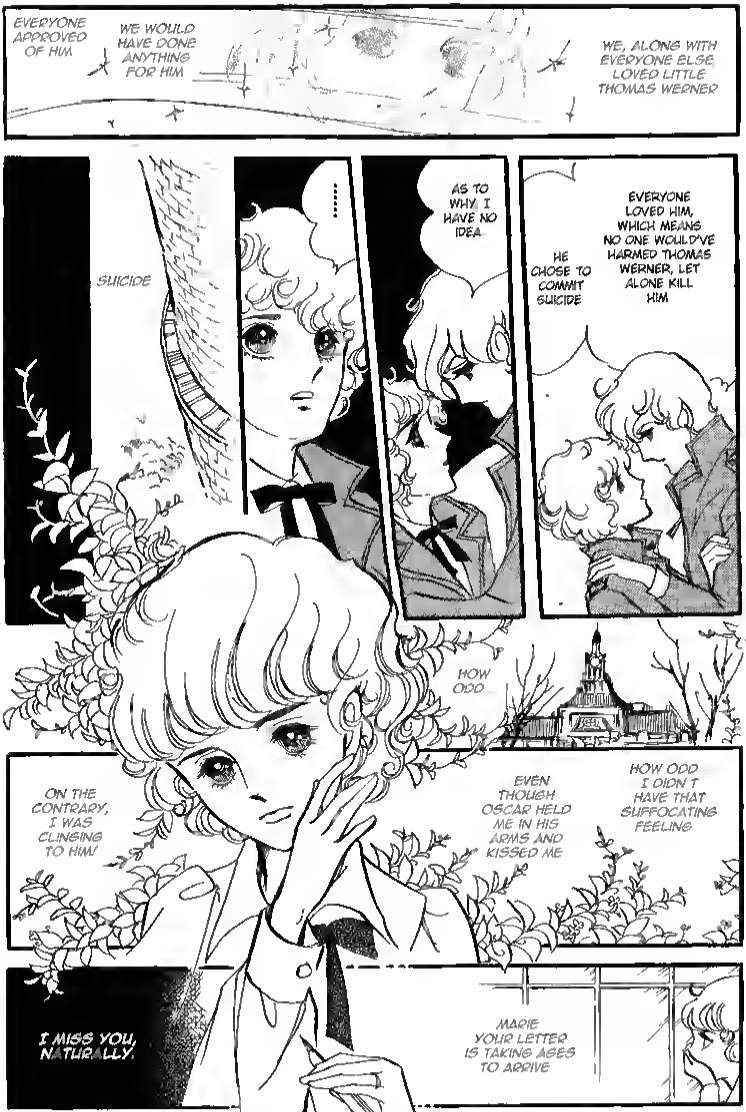
LYING ON THE BED KISSING EACH OTHER!
WHAT WAS THAT? LOWER YOUR VOICES A BIT, THE REST OF YOU!
I SAW THE TWO OF THEM AT THREE A.M. IN THE DEAD OF THE NIGHT...
WE'LL ALL THINK YOU'RE A LIAR IF YOU DON'T TELL US WHAT YOU'VE SEEN!
I CAN'T TALK ABOUT IT HERE
COME ON, OVER HERE! TAKE A LOOK DOWN HERE!
.....
THERE IS!
IS THERE SOMEONE YOU LIKE THAT MUCH?
YOU'LL FIND OTHER PEOPLE YOU'LL LIKE AS WELL AS GIRLS AND CLOSE FRIENDS!
EVEN A PARTNER YOU CAN OPEN YOUR HEART TO!
YOU KNOW, ERIC
EVEN IF YOU NEVER HEAR FROM MARIE...

IF YOU FAINT FROM A KISS UP HERE THEN YOU'LL SIMPLY FALL OVER THE EDGE, WON'T YOU?
.....
NO, NOT YOU
YOU... YOU MUST LIKE THIS PERSON MORE THAN YOUR FATHER, RIGHT? IS...IS IT ME?
THEN STOP IT! I'M NOT IN THE MOOD FOR A PRANK!
DID JULI KILL THOMAS WERNER?

SURELY THAT MEANS THAT HE KILLED THOMAS!
BUT JULIUSMOLE DISLIKES ME BECAUSE I LOOK LIKE THOMAS!
HE EVEN SAID HE WAS GOING TO KILL ME!
I'M GOING GOOD AND BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO ALL OF US
OSCAR
LOOK, THOMAS CHOSE TO COMMIT SUICIDE!
THAT'S RIDICULOUS! WHAT IN THE WORLD IS HE...
JULE
NOTHING! THOMAS WERNER HAD AN ACCIDENT...
WHAT ARE YOU HIDING FROM ME, OSCAR?!
NEVER MIND!
WHAT DID YOU SAY? SUICIDE?
THAT'S A LIE! YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING!
BUT JULI ADMITTED HIS GUILT RIGHT BEFORE ME!
WAH!

slam
haa haa
haa haa
AH...
AH...
clench
Y-YOU FOOL!
WHAT WERE YOU RUSHING AFTER ME FOR?
YOU UTTER MORON! YOU READY TO FOLLOW IN THOMAS'S FOOTSTEPS?

DO YOU BELIEVE IN THE EXISTENCE OF AMOUR, THE SPIRIT OF LOVE?
GOOD GRIEF. LE BEBE
WE GAVE THOMAS THE NICKNAME OF 'FRAULEIN'
BECAUSE WE REALLY LIKED HIM VERY MUCH
.....
BECAUSE YOU SEE
THE SPIRIT OF AMOUR LIVED WITHIN THOMAS PURE AND IDEAL AND PERFECT
BUT INSTEAD OF BEING BLESSED WITH HAPPINESS THIS INDIVIDUAL WHO TOUCHED THE HEARTS OF OTHERS WAS LEFT WITH NOTHING
THAT WAS ALL


EVERYONE APPROVED OF HIM
WE WOULD HAVE DONE ANYTHING FOR HIM
WE, ALONG WITH EVERYONE ELSE, LOVED LITTLE THOMAS WERNER
SUICIDE
.....
AS TO WHY, I HAVE NO IDEA
HE CHOSE TO COMMIT SUICIDE
EVERYONE LOVED HIM, WHICH MEANS NO ONE WOULD'VE HARMED THOMAS WERNER, LET ALONE KILL HIM
HOW ODD...
ON THE CONTRARY, I WAS CLINGING TO HIM!
EVEN THOUGH OSCAR HELD ME IN HIS ARMS AND KISSED ME
HOW ODD I DIDN'T HAVE THAT SUFFOCATING FEELING
I MISS YOU, NATURALLY.
MARIE YOUR LETTER IS TAKING AGES TO ARRIVE

THAT'S OSCAR!
YO!
ERIC!
AS I LEARN MY WAY AROUND I FIND I'M QUITE ENJOYING IT HERE
BUT I'VE BEGUN TO FEEL VERY MUCH AT HOME IN THIS SCHOOL.
I LAUGH AND ARGUE WITH ALL THE OTHER BOYS
I LIKE OSCAR HE'S MADE SURE I GET TO KNOW MY CLASS-MATES
I'M NO LONGER THE ODD ONE OUT BUT I'VE NOTICED THAT I DO HAVE ERRATIC MOOD SWINGS LATELY
IT'S JUST PART OF GROWING UP
HEH HEH
HE APPOINTED THEM BOTH TO BE DORM SUPERVISORS. WELL IT'S A GREAT PRIVILEGE! ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY'VE GOT A TWIN ROOM ALL TO THEMSELVES!
I BELIEVE IT ALL STARTED IN HERR HOMANN'S ROOM. RIGHT? YES, FOR SURE
CLUNK
IT'S STARTING TO SPREAD
BUT IS IT TRUE?
HEH HEH
YET JULI SEEMS AS PROPER AND RESPECTABLE AS A CHURCH, HUH?
THERE'S GOSSIP HERE AND THERE
WHO DO YOU THINK MADE THE FIRST MOVE?
I BET IT WAS OSCAR!

SLAM
LIEBE!
HERBERT!
HERBERT!
TAKE THAT BACK! TAKE THAT BACK!
I WON'T, YOU PIECE OF SCUM!
JULI!
IF YOU'RE ENGAGING IN A SPORTING CONTEST, THEN TAKE IT OUTSIDE. THIS IS A STUDY ROOM
WHOA! YOU ACCUSE ME OF NEGLECTING MY RESPONSIBILITIES? THEN WHAT ABOUT YOU, HEAD PREFECT?
HERE ARE YOUR GLASSES, HERBERT. FOR SOMEONE IN CHARGE OF A DORM ROOM YOU'RE NEGLECTING YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES!
AND YOU'RE MEANT TO MAINTAIN DISCIPLINE IN LIEBE'S ROOM!
H-HERBERT WAS MAKING SLANDEROUS ACCUSATIONS ABOUT YOU AND OSCAR!
huff huff
B-BUT HER-BERT...
HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THAT?
YOU AND OSCAR WERE KISSING EACH OTHER!
I'VE HEARD THE RUMORS!

THE PROBLEM IS YOURS, NOT MINE. YOU CAN EITHER REJECT ME OR ACCEPT ME BASED ON THE GOSSIP. FEEL FREE TO DRAW YOUR OWN CONCLUSIONS.
BUT I'M NOT ABOUT TO CRACK OR FALL APART UNDER THE PRESSURE. I AM WHAT I AM.
THEN YOU ADMIT IT!
chatter
I DON'T NEED TO EXPLAIN ANYTHING
SO AM I A FOOL FOR BEING SWAYED BY GOSSIP?!
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
chuckle
ALWAYS ACTING THE PART OF THE MODEL STUDENT! SCHLOTTERBETZ'S PARAGON OF SCHOLARLY VIRTUE!
I CAN'T STAND THE SIGHT OF YOU!
BANG
FINE THEN, DAMN YOU! YOU ALWAYS WALK AROUND HOLDING A ROSTER UNDER YOUR ARM EVERY SINGLE DAY!

VERY WELL THEN! IN THAT CASE I'LL BE A FOOL!
REALLY? SO DOES THAT MAKE YOU AN ADULT? YOU THINK YOU'RE SO PERFECT?
YOU REMIND ME OF AN OBSTINATE CHILD
HERBERT
SINCE YOU CAN'T STAND THE SIGHT OF ME I'LL TAKE MY LEAVE OF YOU EXCUSE ME
!
HERBERT
I NEED TO KNOW! HE'S THE ONE WHO OWES ME AN APOLOGY, RIGHT?
Listen

DELIBERATE! RUTHLESS! RIGHT, HE'S RIGHT HERE!
HE WAS RUTHLESS...
BUT WE'RE IN THE SAME YEAR!
WELL, HE IS MORE MATURE THAN YOU!
bang
HE MADE ME LOOK LIKE A FOOL... AND TREATED ME LIKE A KID!
IT'S BECAUSE HE'S MORE SPECIAL THAN THE REST OF US!
JULI DID WHAT?
HE SIMPLY DIDN'T NEED HIMSELF FROM HIS FRIEND WITH EVERY STEP.
HE DIDN'T STRIKE HERBERT.
IN THE PAST, JULI WASN'T LIKE THIS
HE REFUSED TO UNDERSTAND... I'M SURE OF IT YET YOU AND HE GET ALONG WELL IN THE SAME ROOM, DON'T YOU?
HE... HE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND HERBERT'S FEELINGS AT ALL
HE WAS SO ARROGANT I WONDER IF HE SHOULD'VE ANSWERED THE WAY HE DID...

LE BEBE SOMETIMES YOU TAKE ME BY SURPRISE
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT!
I'VE KNOWN HIM SINCE THE TIME WE BOTH STARTED AT THIS SCHOOL. I GUESS IT'S BEEN FIVE YEARS NOW
HE DOES LOVE HIS FRIENDS REALLY HE'S DOING A GOOD JOB AS HEAD PREFECT
DESPITE WHAT YOU SAW HERBERT DOES LIKE JUL!
HE JUST GETS MAD WHEN HE'S TREATED LIKE AN INFERIOR.
BUT I GUESS JULI IS ACTING THE STRONG LEADER FOR THE SAKE OF APPEARANCES
IT'S THE HEADMASTER!
OSCAR!
OSCAR!
HE'S HAD TO DEAL WITH MANY HARDSHIPS
SO HE PUTS ON A GUISE FOR THE LIKES OF YOU
THE TRUTH IS HE'S EMPTY INSIDE
RIGHT, I'M ON MY WAY
HE'S CALLING FOR YOU!!

OSCAR... THE PERSON YOU TOLD ME YOU HAD SET YOUR HEART ON...
COULD IT BE JULIUS-MOLE?!
BUT THAT'S GOING TO TAKE TIME
I'M WAITING FOR HIM TO OPEN HIS HEART TO ME
ALTHOUGH WE'VE TURNED A BLIND EYE TO YOUR MISDEMEANORS, THERE ARE TIMES YOU'VE EXCEEDED THE BOUNDS.
WHAT HAVE I DONE WRONG?
THIS SCHOOL IS A PLACE OF LEARNING, OSCAR REISER!
MOVE TO ANOTHER ROOM?
WHAT FOR?

WE'VE BEEN TOO LENIENT WITH YOU
YOU'RE BEING MOVED TO A ROOM OF SIX IN SIMON HALL
WILL JULI BE ON HIS OWN?
AS FOR ME, THIS IS THE WAY I AM. IT'S NOT EASY FOR A LEOPARD TO CHANGE ITS SPOTS.
I SWEAR ON MY LIFE THAT I HAVEN'T COMMITTED ANY CRIME NOR BROKEN ANY SCHOOL RULES.
IN WHAT WAY? HE'S AN EXCELLENT HEAD PREFECT.
IS THIS ALL ABOUT THOSE STUPID RUMORS?
IT SEEMS YOU HAVE A SMOKING HABIT TOO BUT THIS TIME YOU'VE COMPROMISED JULI
YES, IT IS
ERIC FRUEHLING WILL BE SHARING THE ROOM WITH HIM
JULI IS A FINE HEAD PREFECT, AND ERIC IS NO ORDINARY PUPIL!
I THOUGHT JULI'S BEHAVIOR WOULD SET A GOOD EXAMPLE FOR ERIC TO FOLLOW
WATCH OVER HIM? IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE CONCERNED ABOUT?
SO YOU...
...THINK ERIC CAN WATCH OVER HIM?

YOU HAVE THE FINAL WORD, HEADMASTER MUELLER
EXCUSE ME I SPOKE OUT OF TURN
REGARDLESS OF WHAT YOU MAY KNOW ABOUT A PARTICULAR STUDENT, CAN I DEPEND ON YOUR DISCRETION?
OSCAR REISER, AS GUSTAV'S SON, YOU'RE VERY DEAR TO ME
COLLECT YOUR BELONGINGS, ERIC! FROM TONIGHT YOU'LL BE SHARING THE DORM SUPERVISOR'S ROOM WITH JULI!
I'M MOVING INTO THIS ROOM! I HOPE WE CAN ALL GET ALONG!
whaw
OSCAR, WHAT'S GOING ON?
OSCAR !
NO WAY!
HE'S GOING TO KILL ME!

ユーキ…ユキスキール！